MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 APRIL 1983

PLO Affairs

'Arafat-Husayn Talks -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian King Husayn held three rounds of talks in Amman on 2-3 April, according to reports by Amman radio. 'Arafat said the results of the talks will be submitted to an extraordinary Arab summit conference which will be held in Fes in mid-April, Radio Monte Carlo reported. After reporting a "pessimistic atmosphere" on 2 April regarding the possibility that 'Arafat would mandate Husayn to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians, the radio said the talks continued on 3 April in a "less pessimistic atmosphere." Nevertheless, the PLO leaders informed Jordan of their refusal to participate in Middle East talks based on President Reagan's plan, the radio revealed. Asked whether he would accept a compromise between the Reagan plan and the Fes resolutions, 'Arafat said he is committed to whatever the Arabs decide at summit level, the radio added. According to Amman radio, 'Arafat told newsmen that the Reagan plan requires U.S. ability to halt the "Judaization of lands" and the settlement program. He said the U.S. decision to suspend the supply of F-16 aircraft to Israel is a "positive move" but he criticized U.S. military support for Israel.

Commenting on the talks, Amman's AR-RA'Y said that President Reagan's telephone conversation with King Husayn on 2 April gave impetus to the 'Arafat-Husayn talks and that 'Arafat's decision to delay his departure from Amman for 48 hours in order to hold a PLO Executive Committee meeting illustrates the significance of what was discussed. The paper also claimed that Husayn was behind the U.S. decision to suspend the shipment of F-16's to Israel and that Reagan pledged to Husayn to achieve a freeze in the Israeli settlement program in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Earlier, AR-RA'Y praised the U.S. decision to suspend the shipment of F-16's but cautioned that the importance of the move depends on its effectiveness in securing Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, Amman radio reported.

PLO Radio on Peace Opportuniites -- Neither the PLO nor Jordan would hesitate to accept and support a definite peace option based on the fulfillment of the Palestinian people's national rights, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio declared in a 2 April commentary. But if the option now offered conflicts with the rights and interests of the Palestinians, Jordanians, and the Arab nation, the radio cautioned, then "we must all tackle the matter" and face events with resolution and understanding. The radio asked rhetorically why the Palestinians should be expected to believe that the U.S. Administration can achieve a peace based on "some justice" in the West Bank and Gaza when it is incapable of impressing its "seriousness" on the Lebanon issue. The radio said the ball is now in the U.S. and Israeli court since "we really do not see any peace opportunities or justifications for any side to accuse us of obstructing or wasting peace opportunities."

Egypt

The meeting between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn "is a golden and valuable opportunity which the Palestinian cause must not miss," Egyptian President Husni Mubarak declared during a Beijing news conference broadcast by Cairo radio on 3 April. He added that if the Palestinians and Jordan do not agree on a "relationship" the blame will remain with the Arabs for not having helped generate momentum for the peace process. Commenting on Egypt's relations with other Arab states, Mubarak stressed that existing differences are "superficial and temporary" and will "disappear." He noted that Egypt is continuing relations and contacts among all states of the Arab nation. On relations with the PRC, Mubarak said his discussions with PRC leaders dealt with consolidating bilateral relations and intensifying cooperation in all areas. He pointed out that economic, agricultural, scientific, and technical cooperation agreements have been signed and noted that the volume of bilateral trade amounts to $184 million.

Lebanon

Tripartite Negotiations -- Foreign Minister Elie Salim denied that Lebanon has reached final agreement with Israel on any matter currently under discussion, Beirut radio reported on 1 April. While denying that Lebanon, Israel, and the United States have agreed to form a joint military committee, Salim said the proposal for such a committee has been under discussion for some time but no agreement has yet been reached. Lebanese official sources also announced that Lebanon rjects joint Lebanese-Israeli patrols as "out of the question" and that recent reports of an agreement to form such patrols are "incorrect and misleading," according to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon and Voice of Lebanon radios. However, a senior Israeli official cited by Jerusalem radio affirmed that Lebanon has agreed in principle to the Israeli demand for joint patrols but he admitted that details of the agreement have not yet been finalized.

Military Situation -- The Syrians have established eight new SAM bases in Lebanon as well as two new SAM-5 bases in the Al-Masna' Syrian-Lebanese border area, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported on 2 April. The radio also said Israeli and Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' area exchanged artillery fire on 1 April. However, Jerusalem radio subsequently reported that the IDF spokesman denied any clash had occurred and monitored Syrian media did not mention any such incident.

Haddad Statements -- "I will not resign for the moment because I know that my country is facing danger," "free Lebanon" commander Major Sa'd Haddad announced in a 1 April Jerusalem television interview. In a statement broadcast the following day by Voice of Hope radio, Haddad expressed disappointment that the Lebanese Government has not asked him and his men to stay in southern Lebanon and said anyone opposing him is insulting patriotism and "has no right to speak in the name of Lebanon."

Israel

Policy Toward USSR, U.S. -- Israel has sent indirect messages to the Soviet Union explaining that it does not plan to attack Syria and intends to evacuate Lebanon as soon as arrangements are concluded that guarantee Israeli security, MA'ARIV reported on 3 April. Earlier, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said in a Jerusalem television interview that the Soviet Union knows Israel has no intention of attacking Syria. Shamir described as "regrettable" President Reagan's announcement of the delay in supplying Israel with F-16 aircraft. Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich likewise said Reagan's reference to Israel's "conquest" of Lebanon was "offensive and surprising," according to an interview broadcast by IDF Radio. Ehrlich also revealed that he opposed the invasion of Lebanon in Cabinet meetings last June.

West Bank -- Two IDF soldiers were wounded when a handgrenade was thrown at a group of soldiers in Nabulus, Jerusalem radio reported on 3 April. The radio also noted that 400 more Arab girl students from several areas were rushed to the hospital after complaining of dizziness and headaches. Senior IDF sources cited by the radio affirmed that the alleged poisoning of Arab students is nothing but a hoax to incite the residents of "Judaea and Samaria" and to cause unrest and rioting. The radio subsequently reported that an International Red Cross representative investigating the hospitalization of girls in Janin has found no evidence of poisoning.

Saudi Arabia

The U.S. decision to suspend the shipment of F-16's to Israel indicates U.S. determination to reach a just solution to the Lebanon issue and constitues "effective pressure" that may make Israel abandon plans for further armed aggression against Lebanon or other Arab countries, AL-JAZIRAH asserted in an editorial reported by Riyadh radio. The decision will shock the Israelis' "arrogance" and make them realize how weak they are without U.S. support, the paper added. Earlier, Radio Monte Carlo reported that if

the United States fails to fulfill its "positive promises" to Saudi Arabia over Lebanon, the Saudis will prevent some foreign companies from undertaking development projects in the Kingdom.

As for the USSR, the Saudi paper AR-RIYAD expressed "lack of trust" in the recent Soviet statement warning Israel against attacking Syria, SPA noted.

Syria

Damascus radio affirmed on 1 April that the recent Soviet Government statement on the Middle East has met the Syrian people's hopes for "substantial support" for their national and pan-Arab causes. The radio said the statement stressed that Syria is the "citadel of Arab struggle against Israeli expansion and U.S. ambitions in the region."

In another development the Soviet defense minister will arrive in Syria "next week" leading a military delegation to inspect the recently established SAM-5 bases, Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio reported on 1 April.

Jordanian Relations With Iraq, Egypt

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz gave King Husayn a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Amman radio reported on 2 April. Meanwhile, Husayn's brother, Prince Muhammad, arrived on a private visit to Cairo, MENA noted. Official Jordanian sources announced the same day that the Jordanian under secretary for industry and commerce will shortly visit Egypt to discuss arrangements for a bilateral economic and commercial protocol, KUNA reported.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni urged youths who have been deceived by leaders of minigroups living outside Iran -- particularly in France -- to "come to their sense," according to a 1 April Khomeyni message broadcast by Tehran radio on the occasion of the anniversary of the founding of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The ayatollah advised the region's governments to "make friends" with Iran, which is the "only great and mighty power" in the area. He stressed that for the past 4 years Iran has been forging ahead "without reliance on anyone save God Almighty."

In another development more than 35 "Eastern- and Western-oriented elements" were either killed or wounded in Kordestan, Tehran radio reported on 3 April

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 065 *4 April 1983*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Saudi Paper Cites Moroccan Source on Arab Summit [WAKH] A 1
Algiers VOP Comments on 'Arafat-Husayn Talks A 1
Khalil al-Wazir on Talks in Amman, Other Topics A 1
Husayn-'Arafat Meetings [Radio Monte Carlo] A 1
Prisoner Exchange With Israel [QNA] A 3
Military Operations To Intensify [KUNA] A 3
PLO Radio on Talks With Jordan, Peace Options A 4
[Baghdad Voice of PLO]
West Bank Mayors View Husayn-'Arafat Meeting A 5
Former Gaza Mayor [Radio Monte Carlo] A 5
Mayor of Bethlehem [Radio Monte Carlo] A 6
MTI: Hawatimah Reports 'Ultimatum' Handed to PLO A 6
Salah Khalaf: Syria-Israel War 'in USSR's Interest' [KUNA] A 7
'Arafat Sends Messages to Saudi, Moroccan Monarchs [QNA] A 8
Palestinian Statement on W. Bank Incidents A 9
[Baghdad Voice of PLO]

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

Moves To Combat Gulf Oil Slick Reported C 1
Environmentalists Meet C 1
Japan To Assist C 1
Slick's Course 'Unpredictable' C 1
[GULF DAILY NEWS 2 Apr]
Control 'Not Easy' C 2

BAHRAIN

Heir Apparent Meets Bush, Others in Washington C 2
[GULF DAILY NEWS 2 Apr]
Ends Visit to U.S. [GULF DAILY NEWS 4 Apr] C 3

KUWAIT

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Aircraft Deliveries to Israel [2 Apr] C 3
Further Comment C 3
AL-QABAS Calls USSR Warning to Israel 'Serious' [2 Apr] C 4
Omani Envoy on UAE Border, Relations With USSR [QNA] C 4

SAUDI ARABIA

Analysis of Gromyko's News Conference Statements C 5
USSR Statement on Israel, Syria Viewed [AR-RIYAD] C 6
Husayn-'Arafat Talks, Reagan Decision Viewed C 6

UAE

F-16 Delivery Halt 'Has No Military Effect' [AL-ITTIHAD] C 7
PLO's Hani al-Hasan Arrives in Abu Dhabi C 8
Al Nuhayyan Congratulates Hungarian Counterpart C 8

PDRY

Soviet Party-Government Delegation Arrives C 8
Talks Begin; Ties Noted C 8
Chairman Receives Visitor C 9
Foreign Minister Sees Group C 9
Talks Conclude 3 April C 9

EGYPT

Mubarak, 'Ali Meet With Kissinger in Beijing D 1
Abu Ghazalah Says Exercises Planned With Sudan D 1
Jordan's Prince Muhammad Arrives on Visit D 1
Pakistani Military Delegation Arrives in Cairo D 1
Hafiz Meets Pakistani Counterpart D 2
Muhyi ad-Din Receives Sudanese Assembly Speaker D 2
Cairo Palestine Radio on Janin Poisonings D 2
AL-AHRAM Condemns West Bank Poisonings D 3
AL-AHRAM Comments on U.S. Arms To Israel D 3
Papers Comment on President Mubarak's Asian Tour D 4

IRAQ

Iranian Battle Losses Reported 1-3 April E 1
Communique No 1,046 E 1
Communique No 1,047 E 1
Communique No 1,048 E 2
Official on Soviet Weapon Sales, U.S. Relations [QNA] E 3
23 Die in Iranian-Kurdish Clashes 2 April E 3
'Aziz Returns From Short Visit to Amman E 3

JORDAN

Reportage on 'Arafat Visit, Talks Held F 1
Joint Committee Meets [KUNA] F 1
'Arafat, Badran Confer F 1
'Arafat, Husayn Meet F 1
2, 3 April Sessions F 2
Higher Committee Meets F 2
'Arafat, Comments on Talks [AFP] F 3
'Arafat on F-16's to Israel [Radio Monte Carlo] F 3
Statement on Talks Expected [SAWT ASH-SHA'B 4 Apr] F 4
Optimistic Outlook [Radio Monte Carlo] F 4
'Arafat Holds Press Conference in Amman F 5
AR-RA'Y Highlights Reagan's Contact With Husayn [4 Apr] F 6
AR-RA'Y on Suspension of F-16's to Israel F 7
Iraq's 'Aziz Arrives in Amman 2 April [INA] F 7
Received by Husayn F 7

LEBANON

Salim Denies Agreement Reached With Israel G 1
VOAL: Joint Patrols Rejected G 1
Al-Wazzan Says U.S. Option Not Yet Exhausted G 1

Salim Briefs Al-Jumayyil on Talks With Draper G 2
Salim, Karami Make Statements After Talks G 2
Radio Free Lebanon Optimistic About Negotiations G 4
Negotiations Team Reduced to Four Persons Each G 4
'Radio Free Lebanon' on SAM Bases, Syrian Positions G 4
Tripoli Movement Warns Syrians To Leave G 5
Haddad Asks Government for Negotiations G 6

SYRIA

Reportage on USSR Mideast Statement, Reaction H 1
Meets Syrian Hopes H 1
With Syrian Cooperation [Radio Monte Carlo] H 1
TISHRIN Comment H 2
Tannus Meets USSR-Syria Amity Group Official H 3

ISRAEL

Reagan Statement on F-16's Draws Angry Response I 1
Foreign Minister Shamir I 1
Resentment Expressed I 1
DAVAR: 'Great Anger' [3 Apr] I 1
Shamir Interviewed on Lebanon, F-16 Issue I 2
Israeli Message to Soviet Union Reported [MA'ARIV 3 Apr] I 4
U.S. Experts Arrive To Study Poisoning Incidents I 4
IRC Representative Finds No Trace of Poisoning I 5
Eytan Interviewed on Soviet Threat, Syria [MA'ARIV 3 Apr] I 5
Kreisky Talks to DAVAR About Prisoners [3 Apr] I 13

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Jabir Meets Palestinian Faction Leaders Q 1
Conference on Green Book To Start 7 Apr Q 1
Commentary on U.S.-Chad Relations Q 2
JANA: U.S. Actions Threaten UN Survival Q 2
JANA Refutes 'Adventure' Claims by Kuwait Paper [AL-HADAF 25 Mar] Q 3

MOROCCO

LE MONDE Reports Arrest of Dlimi Aide [24 Mar] Q 4

SUDAN

Security Organ Captures Libyan Agents, Arms Q 4

CENTRAL AFRICA

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Expelled Spaniard Charges Development Aid Misuse S 1
Five Groups Opposed to Obiang Meet in Spain 1 Apr S 1

WEST AFRICA

SENEGAL

AFP Reports Appointees in New Government T 1

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

UNITA Radio Reports on Military Successes U 1
[Voice of Black Cockerel]

MOZAMBIQUE

Tribunal Sentences Six to Death, Others to Prison U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister Refuses To Meet Nujoma, Others U 4
White Electorate To Vote on Reform Proposals U 4

ZIMBABWE

Matabeleland Curfew Lifted; Dissidents Paraded U 4
HERALD Editorial on Need To Disarm Dissidents [28 Mar] U 4
HERALD Denounces Catholic Statement on Atrocities [31 Mar] U 5
Government Asks Church's Help in Education U 6
Aid Agreement Signed With Japan 28 March U 6

SAUDI PAPER CITES MOROCCAN SOURCE ON ARAB SUMMIT

GF031220 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1010 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, 3 Apr (WAKH) -- Well-informed Moroccan sources note that it has become certain that an extraordinary Arab summit will be held on 16-17 April to discuss the latest developments of the Palestinian issue.

In a statement to Saudi paper AL-JAZIRAH published today, these sources added that Morocco, the PLO, the Gulf countries, and Algeria have proposed this date and that they seek to ensure the success of this summit by getting the assurances that all the Arab countries will attend. These sources added that Morocco will today begin a political campaign move by sending a number of Moroccan envoys on visits to Arab capitals. The sources added that this move reflects Morocco's attempt, in coordination with a number of Arab countries, to create conditions for surmounting the situation which the Arab nation is experiencing.

[Riyadh SPA in Arabic at 0800 GMT on 3 April carries a similar report attributed to AL-JAZIRAH but renders the date of the proposed summit meeting as 6-7 April. -- FBIS]

ALGIERS VOP COMMENTS ON 'ARAFAT-HUSAYN TALKS

LD040132 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Dispatch from unidentified reporter in Kuwait]

[Text] Dear brothers, do not expect a miracle to occur as a result of the 'Arafat-Husayn meeting in Amman. The subject was discussed at summit level, and it seems that Morocco has begun to send its delegates to the states with representatives on the seven-member committee urging that a new summit be held and that what is being discussed in Amman be discussed at the summit level. Thus the talks and meetings continue.

KHALIL AL-WAZIR ON TALKS IN AMMAN, OTHER TOPICS

Husayn-'Arafat Meetings

JN011859 Paris Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Interview with Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of Palestinian revolution forces, identified here by his now de guerre Abu Jihad, to Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Antoine Abu Samrah on 1 April in Amman, carried in the "It Happened Tomorrow" program -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Following an Arab tour, Yasir 'Arafat has arrived in Amman. The general impression in most of the capitals he visited is that agreement with King Husayn to proceed to the negotiations is difficult at present. What is your opinion on the eve of the [Amman] talks?

[Answer] In the moves carried out by Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the Palestinian delegations in the various Arab states and the political moves and the discussion of the nature and trends of these moves with Jordan, we consider the bases [mu'tayat] for possible action. So far, the bases available do not inspire confidence concerning the trends of U.S. policy on Palestinian rights.

During the meetings in Amman, which began yesterday with the meeting of the [Higher] Palestinian-Jordanian Committee, there will be a survey of the nature of the stands and a study of the new developments. This study will continue during the meetings between Brother Abu 'Ammar and King Husayn, which will go on intensively today and tomorrow in order to study all the bases before us and any new developments. We must not suffer the sword of the time factor under which many are trying to place us. We must first understand the nature of the facts which can be agreed on, the new bases, if any, and the factors of confidence which will facilitiate joint consideration of the nature of political moves on solid ground. In light of all that, moves can be made.

[Question] It is said that Washington cannot put pressure on Israel without joint Palestinian-Jordanian card; in other words, it needs agreement between the PLO and King Husayn. If this is not possible, don't you fear the loss of another opportunity similar to the loss of the partition opportunity, as it is said?

[Answer] These expressions are often repeated -- that we must act quickly so the opportunity is not lost. The main question is: What is the opportunity before us? There is talk about the Reagan plan and about the attempt of U.S. policy to reach a quick solution, but we see many factors disproving all that. What is happening in the Lebanese arena is cogent proof of the failure of U.S. policy in this respect. We see no factors that may serve as an encouragement to follow this line. The other thing is the main direct question which the Palestinians always ask: Where do Palestinian rights fit into the list? Where and when will the PLO and the independent Palestinian state be included in the list? So far, the bases now seem by the Palestinian side are not encouraging.

[Question] Will Palestinian-Jordanian relations be affected if the talks between the two sides do not lead to any agreement to proceed further with the possible peace negotiations?

[Answer] We say it is unnecessary to place ourselves in this conflict. We hope to see normal Palestinian-Jordanian relations that will continue to develop. This was the decision of the recent session of the PNC.

As for the nature of the moves, we say that it is necessary to outline all the issues to our Arab nations. This is, of course, a broad sphere and calls for a comprehensive Arab consultation to decide future steps. Hence we say that the tendency to hold an Arab summit conference, most likely by the middle of the month, is a good move on which we can emerge with a unanimous Arab opinion on these issues to support the Palestinian and Jordanian stands. We do not have to argue that we either agree or disagree. We say that all of us have open hearts and minds on new bases for action. So far, the Palestinian side does not consider the current basis satisfactory as it does not achieve our rights. Therefore, we say that the dialogue must continue. We have to act in light of any new bases and then decide on what to do next. We must not place ourselves in this conflict, particularly since we see that both the United States and our Israeli enemy are becoming more intransigent and are continuing to reject Palestinian bases and Arab visions.

[Question] I understand from your words, Abu Jihad, that the Palestinian side tends to want to wait for the Arab summit conference. Actually, there are many sides awaiting this summit conference. Do I understand that no final decision will be made now in anticipation for the coming summit conference?

[Answer] Let us not anticipate developments. However, we say that there is an inclination toward joint action through the summit conference. There we can expand Arab consultation in an attempt to reach results which will bolster the Arab and Palestinian causes. The current dialogue is based on this inclination.

[Question] Precisely what do you expect from the Arab summit conference?

[Answer] Naturally, this issue is being studied by the Palestinian leadership. There will be intensive Palestinian leadership meetings to further study what must be done in the coming Arab summit on what we want and to what extent, on what base, we can depend and on how the Arab move can support the Palestinian move. In light of all this, we will decide on our moves at the Arab summit conference.

Prisoner Exchange With Israel

GF021304 Doha QNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Apr (QNA) -- Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has announced that a new group of Palestinian paratroopers graduated a few days ago. In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS published today, he announced that this graduation comes in accordance with the resolutions reached by the PNC which call for intensification of operations behind the enemy lines and inside the occupied territories

Abu Jihad referred to the talks on the exchange of Israeli prisoners of war for detainees in Israeli prisons and said: We announced our readiness to carry out the prisoner exchange once our conditions are met. He added that the Palestinian resistance stopped the process until the enemy respond to the Palestinian inquiries and presents comprehensive lists of all those missing.

Military Operations To Intensify

LD030618 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1153 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Apr (KUNA) -- Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestine resistance forces, declared in a statement published here today that the PLO's military command has come a long way toward unifying all resistance groups under the banners of the Palestine Liberation Army.

In a statement to AL-QABAS, Khalil al-Wazir, who is member of the Fatah Central Committee, said that "We are now taking some steps to unify the remaining forces in the Lebanese and Syrian arenas. We expect some practical steps toward this end in the future." He added that the Palestine resistance forces are now "living through a period of reorganization and retraining for rising anew."

He added that the Palestine resistance forces are currently carrying military training courses with a view to "escalating military operations behind the enemy lines." He said: "It is no secret that a group of Palestinian paratroopers graduated a few days ago. They were headed by a Palestinian girl, the first Palestinian girl to participate in this type of training alongside her brothers."

Abu Jihad said it is evident that the escalation of military operations in the occupied territory "has been taking new dimensions and will intensify in the next few weeks."

PLO RADIO ON TALKS WITH JORDAN, PEACE OPTIONS

JN021817 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1525 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Station commentary: "We Must Define Which Court the Ball Is in Now"]

[Text] There is a great deal of talk about peace opportunities being made available to the Palestinians, Jordanians, and Arabs. Opinions are also being voiced on how to exploit these opportunities. Some say do this and others say don't. Then we discover that the argument, which has reached the flash point, is taking place only in our circle, while the other circles concerned are having fun watching us and betting on our differences.

At present, a Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue is taking place at the highest level. The basis of this dialogue, as we in the PLO understand and define it, is the distinguished relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. This relationship inevitably calls for a Palestinian-Jordanian understanding which guarantees an enlightened and studied stance vis-a-vis all the present challenges which, to both peoples and the entire Arab nation, are crucial.

Therefore, we are all called upon to carefully examine the current situation, beginning with our Palestinian-Jordanian arena, then our Arab arena, and the international arena. Through this careful examination we must define the options which we must pursue.

This poses the following question: Is there a peace option on which we can agree or disagree? If there were indeed a definite peace option bases on fulfilling the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, which are acknowledged by the Arab nation and the majority of the world countries, then we do not think that the PLO would hesitate to accept such an option, and we do not think Jordan would hesitate either to back such an option and work for its success. However, if the option now offered conflicts with the rights and interests of the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples and the Arab nation, then we must all tackle the matter, taking full responsibility, so we can face the events with resolve and understanding and in a manner guaranteeing the achievement of our common aims and interests.

We need hardly furnish further proof and evidence to show that the Zionist leadership, headed by terrorist Menahem Begin, is now waging a fierce war against any peace process. It is using all its aggressive resources to foil peace efforts and to entrench the Zionist fait accompli, not only on Palestinian territory, but also Arab territory. In addition to its savage suppression and settlement activities in the occupied territory, Israel insists on occupying Lebanese territory and imposing surrender on Lebanon.

If anyone were to say that Begin's policy in the occupied areas and Lebanon differs from the U.S. Administration's declared policy, we could, without going into further detail, say that the results on the ground show that Begin has the final say and that all U.S. protestations, whether serious or false, are no longer credible. This in itself is sufficient to establish the conviction that there are no peace opportunities. How can we expect the U.S. Administration to achieve a peace based on justice in the West Bank and Gaza when it cannot and will not impress its seriousness on an issue which is of less significance to Israel, namely, the issue of Lebanon, where U.S. forces are present?

The PLO does not back flexibility in dealing with facts and events. We are not exaggerating when we say that political realism and its practical implementation have been the distinctive characteristic of Palestinian policy under all circumstances, but is it not our right -- we who are most realistic -- to tell the difference between peace opportunities and calls for capitulation. After a deep, objective study of all the factors of the Arab, international, and Israeli situation, we can say that we really do not see any peace opportunities or justifications for any side to accuse us of obstructing or wasting peace opportunities.

In the fact of this reality, We Jordanians, Palestinians, and Arabs are called upon to deal with the situation on the basis that the ball is not in our court, but is in the U.S. and Israeli court. So that we are not deceived and so that the fish in the deep sea are the subject of our action, dialogue, agreement, or disagreement, we must address the world in one frank, daring language and say that we are for a peace based on justice. As for a peace which is like the fish in the sea, it is all right to wait rather than to take a risk by casting the net at random.

WEST BANK MAYORS VIEW HUSAYN-'ARAFAT MEETING

Former Gaza Mayor

JN011945 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1754 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Interview with former Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Antoine Abu Samrah by telephone on 1 April, carried within "It Happened Tomorrow" program -- place not given; recorded]

[Text] [Question] Rashad ash-Shawwa, you have recently made several statements on the atmosphere prevailing in the occupied territories with regard to all that is said about the peace plans. At this time in particular, there are talks, contacts, and dialogues between the PLO and Jordan on the possibility of joining negotiations in some way. What is your opinion on the Jordanian-Palestinian talks and the possibility of taking part in peace negotiations?

[Answer] I think the Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations which we expect to be held during the next few hours are fateful for the Palestinian people and perhaps for the whole Arab nation. We hope the Arab leaders in whose hands the destiny of the Palestinian cause lies will take into consideration our living conditions in the occupied territories if they intend to find a solution in the near future. Peace will not be established in this region unless the Palestinian people obtain their rights. This means that the Israeli occupation may continue for decades. However, if we want to rescue what can be rescued, I appeal to the leaders who hold meetings during the next 24 hours to seize every positive possibility. Meanwhile, we are not sure of success. Reagan's initiative, the Fes plan, and the Saudi initiative contain many hopes, but we do not know which one of them will achieve our basic demands, that is, the human dignity of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and abroad as well as our right to be masters of ourselves and not slaves for others.

[Question] Let us assume the Jordanian-Palestinian summit in Amman does not reach a positive result on joining negotiations. What then will be the position of the occupied territories' inhabitants?

[Answer] We are not in a position to choose. We in the occupied territories are determined to die on this land regardless of all Israeli measures, repression, and pressures against us. We will not be shaken off this land. We are trying to convey our voice to the whole world and to our brothers abroad, appealing to them to do whatever they can in order to rescue us. If they can do nothing, we will die where we are.

Mayor of Bethlehem

JN011950 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1757 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Interview with Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj by Radio Monte Carlo Correspondent Antoine Abu Samrah, carried within "It Happened Tomorrow" program -- date and place not given; recorded]

[Text] [Question] In Amman all are waiting for the results of talks between the Palestinian and Jordanian sides, particularly the results of the summit between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat. If this summit and these talks do not lead to the beginning of peace negotiations with the aim of finding a solution to the occupied territories, what will the stand of the inhabitants in the occupied territories be?

[Answer] First of all, the citizens in the occupied areas are impatiently waiting for the results of this decisive meeting between King Husayn and Brother Yasir 'Arafat. They call on the two to assume full responsibility at this decisive stage. The need to reach an agreement is great between the two brothers because of our common destiny, and the occupied territories' inhabitants are worried about the current situation. The citizens are calling for decisions that can be translated into practice. The situation is difficult and the Israelis are more intransigent. Israel's ambitions are clear in its refusal to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. If, contrary to our hopes, no agreement is reached, I think that the situation will further deteriorate and that Israel will step up its oppression of the citizens in the occupied territories and intensify its settlement policy. The repercussions of these measures may be very serious for the citizens both inside and outside the occupied territories.

MTI: HAWATIMAH REPORTS 'ULTIMATUM' HANDED TO PLO

LD011942 Budapest MTI in English 1722 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Budapest, April 1 (MTI) -- Imperialist circles recently sent an ultimatum to the Palestine Liberation Organization requesting [passage indistinct] Palestine, at the end of his visit.

The Palestinian politician spoke at a press conference in Budapest. He added that the request was forwarded to the PLO in early March through Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Morocco. The request also warned that if no positive response was given before the end of the month, there would be another Israeli aggression against the PLO.

"We believe that Yasir 'Arafat (chairman of the PLO executive body) rejects the request and will not authorize the king of Jordan to act as the representative of the Palestinian people," Hawatimah said referring to 'Arafat's current talks in Amman.

The authorization of King Husayn is an attempt to effectuate Reagan's Middle East package, which was turned down both by the Arab countries' summit last year and the February Algiers meeting of the PLO National Council. At best, the plan would entail the annexation of certain Israeli occupied territories by Jordan and the exclusion of the PLO from the Middle East settlement process.

Hawatimah recalled 'Arafat's latest speech in a Damascus mass rally, where he stressed: Despite mounting imperialist pressure, the Palestinians will not divert from their road, will adhere to their principles and allies.

By saying this 'Arafat answered the ultimatum of the imperialist circles which tried to force the Palestinians to severe their ties with their friends and to move towards the stand of the reactionary Arab government by adjusting the policy of the PLO towards theirs. In exchange it was promised that the siege of Beirut would cease.

Hawatimah stressed that the Palestinian people never accepted feeble compromises but stuck to their land where they had been driven away from and where they intend to return to as soon as possible to establish a permanent home. This is why the Day of the Land of Palestine celebrated the other day was such a genuinely popular event when hundreds of thousands of people expressed their strong feeling of patriotism.

As we have turned down the ultimatum we expect a hot summer and bloodshed, the Palestinian politician said and added that a major Israeli onslaught on the Syrian and Palestinian forces in the Al-Biqa' Valley in eastern Lebanon was foreseeable in his view and hostilities could easily spread to Syrian territory.

Hawatimah described the recently announced plan to hold yet another summit conference on the Arab countries in a new attempt by the reactionary Arab countries to lobby for a pan-Arab approval to appoint the king of Jordan as the representative of the Palestinians. Hawatimah added that a similar attempt was made in last year's summit, when Morocco and Saudi Arabia submitted a draft resolution in which the formula 'PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people' (accepted by earlier Arab summits) was altered and the word "sole" omitted. That attempt failed.

As Hawatimah put it, the first priority of the Palestinian resistance movement is to maintain national unity within the framework of the PLO. He stressed the importance of a broad people's front to be established in the occupied territories, the improvement of the Palestinian-Syrian relations as soon as possible and the fostering of alliance with the progressive forces of the world, the socialist countries.

SALAH KHALAF: SYRIA-ISRAEL WAR 'IN USSR'S INTEREST'

LD021848 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0954 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Apr (KUNA) -- A war between Syria and Israel would be in the interest of the USSR. This was stated by Salah Khalaf -- Abu Iyad -- member of Fatah, the largest of the Palestinian resistance groups, in an interview with KUNA. He added that he does not consider it unlikely Israel will attack Syria or even Jordan.

Salah Khalaf said that the USSR "has felt that its arms were humiliated on several occasions and that there is a clear U.S. attempt to drive the USSR out of the Middle East. Hence a battle is in the USSR's interest in order to reply to the U.S. attempts to expel it from the Middle East.

Khalaf said that he does not rule out the possibility of Israel's waging a war against Syria or Jordan. "Though Jordan has no aggressive intentions against Israel at present, as the Israelis say, Israel may launch an attack on Jordan to bring pressure to bear on King Husayn." This, he pointed out, is because Israel "always believes in the principle of striking first and then negotiating so that the Arabs get nothing. It seems the U.S. Administration also has come to favor this way."

Salah Khalaf said that "if the present state of Arab impotence were to continue," he does not rule out the likelihood of Israeli expansion to the oil countries, "because the United States and the European countries have learned from the lessons of the post-October 1973 war that oil affects their life arteries and matters must develop in such a way to place oil in their hands."

Khalaf said that according to his information, Britain is not encouraging King Husayn to join the Middle East talks. London was the last stop visited by the Fes summit conference's Arab seven-member committee to rally support for the unified Arab peace plan which the Fes conference adopted last September.

Abu Iyad described the Fes plan as the "last of Palestinian concessions." He said that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn of Jordan, who will be meeting together in Amman today to discuss the progress made toward settlement of the Middle East crisis, "can bounce the ball back on the U.S. court. There are a thousand and one ways to do so. There are numerous proposals Abu 'Ammar and King Husayn can discuss."

Salah Khalaf did not clarify the nature of these proposals with the exception of one that provides for calling for an Arab summit conference to discuss the results of the mission of the seven-member committee.

Asked about pressures said to be brought to bear on King Husayn, which leave him no other option but to accept the Reagan Middle East plan, Salah Khalaf replied: "On the contrary, many people have been discouraging King Husayn from entering into negotiations according to the information I have. Also according to my information, the British are not encouraging King Husayn to enter into negotiations, which they consider to be futile."

Salah Khalaf described the campaign waged by Egypt against the PLO following the PNC meetings in Algiers last February as fabrications and said that it was nurtured by supporters of the late President as-Sadat in order to prevent any rapprochement between the PLO and Egypt. Khalaf said that he had planned to visit Egypt after the PNC meerings, but "we were surprised to see the campaign waged against us." However, Khalaf said that the Palestinian leadership wishes "to meet with the Egyptian regime. When I said that we will work to widen any gap in the Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. Camp David accord, my words reflected our desire for meeting with Cairo." He added: "We will try to maintain our old relations with Egypt and will not sever them. However, we have the right to reply to this harsh campaign."

'ARAFAT SENDS MESSAGE TO SAUDI, MOROCCAN MONARCHS

GF031158 Doha QNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Amman, 3 Apr (QNA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who is presently in the Jordanian capital, has sent urgent messages to the chairman of the Islamic Conference, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia and to the chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco, dealing with Israeli aggression against Islamic holy places. In a statement to QNA's correspondent in 'Amman, 'Arafat's adviser 'Imad Shaqqur said: The two messages sent by the Palestinian leader drew attention to the grave escalation of Israeli aggression which can be seen in the continued aggression against Islamic holy places, the latest instance of which was the destruction of the minaret of Hasan Bayk Mosque in Jaffa and the destruction other parts of it, in addition to setting the Ash-Shaykh Jarrah Mosque in occupied Jerusalem ablaze.

The message called for confronting this grave aggression with a stringent Arab and Islamic stance. The message also stressed the need to inform world public opinion and to warn against the continuation of these violations of holy places in the Arab occupied territories.

Shaqqur also noted that Yasir 'Arafat sent new instructions to the Palestinian mission in New York with regard to adding the issue of repeated Israeli aggression against holy places as an article in the complaint presented to the UN Security Council by the PLO and by the Arab countries on Israeli violations, the poisoning incidents of female students, in addition to other oppressive Israeli measures against the Palestinian people.

PALESTINIAN STATEMENT ON W. BANK INCIDENTS

JN012044 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1540 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Statement issued by Palestinian national organizations in "the occupied territory" -- place, date not given]

[Excerpts] The incidents of mass poisoning involving hundreds of our people in the occupied West Bank within the sight and hearing of the Zionist occupation authorities are in line with the continuous campaign of provocations and repression against our people in Palestinian towns, villages, and camps -- especially since we have also learned that some old people and children have lost their lives as a result of the inhuman seige on Al-Jalazun camp and other places -- and with the encroachment on Islamic and Christian holy places. Any logical person cannot but consider these acts a link in a chain of measures to harass the Palestinians in the occupied territory and make them despair.

The failure of the Zionist occupation authorities to take the necessary measures to stop the Jewish settlers' crimes against our people, such as those that led to the martyrdom of several people during last year's uprising and the attempt to assassinate Mayors ash-Shak'ah, Khalaf, and Tawil, is not reassuring. In fact, the trial of some Zionist soldiers several weeks ago in Yafo, which showed that they had received specific orders from their chief of staff to carry out mass punishment of the inhabitants, the statements of the deputy speaker of the Knesset that the government had failed to expel hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in 1967 the way it expelled hundreds of thousands of them from Hebron, Ramala, and Lod in 1948, and the statement of former chief of military intelligence Aharon Yariv published in HA'ARETZ of 23 May 1980 about the existence of an Israeli plan to expel 700,000 to 800,000 Palestinians in certain circumstances all cause concern about Israel's intentions toward our Palestinian people's existence, let alone their political future. Events have proved the existence of a systematic barbaric program which entails grave dangers to the lives of the Palestinians and their future. The poisoning of our children is part of this odious program. We hold the Zionist authorities fully responsible before the whole world for everything that threatens the lives of the citizens. We also accuse them of a blatent dereliction of their responsibilities under international pacts.

The escalation of all these repressive campaigns is coordinated with the feverish U.S. efforts to legalize Israeli occupation by enforcing the Reagan initiative on us within the framework of the Camp David conspiracy. It is also coordinated with the efforts of certain suspect quarters inside and outside the occupied territory to cooperate in this conspiracy. These most hideous events in the occupied territory reaffirm that the safety and security of the Palestinians can be guaranteed only by the withdrawal of the Israeli forces and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state which is protected by a free will and based on international legality.

[Signed] The Higher Islamic Committee, the professional union, the Union of Chambers of Commerce, charity organizations

GULF AFFAIRS

MOVES TO COMBAT GULF OIL SLICK REPORTED

Environmentalists Meet

GF041140 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0919 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 4 Apr (WAKH) -- The Gulf countries' environment experts began their meetings in Manama today under the chairmanship of Khalid Fakhru, director of Mutual Emergency Aid Center of the Gulf Countries and leader of the task force formed to counter the oil slick.

During these meetings in which delgations representing all the countries abutting the Gulf, the problem of oil spill and pollution and means of countering the situation resulting from the oil slick and coordination of measures that can be taken will be discussed, in addition to ways of repairing and maintaining the hit oil wells in the Iranian Nowruz oil field in order to prevent more spillage of oil into the Gulf. Also, methods to confront and move the oil slick away from the coasts of region's states and to reduce the extent of damage the oil slick is causing the Gulf waters will be examined.

These meetings are a prelude to the meeting of the Supreme Council of the regional organization for combating marine pollution to be held in Kuwait next Wednesday.

The Iraqi and Iranian delegations arrived in Manama last night to participate in these meetings alongside the delegations of other Gulf members of the Bahrain-based Mutual Emergency Aid Center of the Gulf Countries.

Japan To Assist

GF021453 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1412 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Tokyo, 2 Apr (WAKH) -- It was announced in Tokyo today that the Japanese Government has decided to participate in the efforts of the Arab Gulf countries to combat the huge oil slick threatening their coasts.

Japanese officials said today Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has decided to dispatch an envoy to Bahrain next week to discuss the aid Japan will offer to the Gulf countries. It was said that Nakasone will probably direct his ambassador to Kuwait, Jiro Aiko, to visit Bahrain and present a report on how Japan can extend aid to resolve the oil pollution crisis resulting from the oil spill from the Iranian oil fields.

Slick's Course 'Unpredictable'

GF020516 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 2 Apr 83 p 1

[By Mike Holland]

[Excerpt] The immediate threat of a huge oil slick hitting Bahrain has eased, with weather conditions driving it about 30 kilometres from the island.

As well as pushing the slick further into the Gulf, the wind has also led to it breaking up.

But last night experts warned that its course was unpredictable because of changing winds and currents, and Bahraini pollution chief Khalid Fakhru said if the northerly winds pick up oil could hit Bahrain in five days.

To combat the source of the slick, environment experts from throughout the Gulf including Iraq and Iran are to meet in Bahrain on Monday to find a way to stem the flow, which has resulted in 250,000 barrels of oil flooding into the shallow Gulf waters.

It poses a threat to power stations, desalination plants, such as the one in Sitrah which the government has agreed to close if threatened by the slick, and marine life.

Already there are reports of dead fish and birds being washed ashore near Al-Jubayl on the Saudi Arabian coast.

Despite the easing of the immediate threat, disastrous results are still expected from the vast majority of the oil in the north of the Gulf that continues to gush from two blown wells in the Iranian Nowruz field.

Control 'Not Easy'

GF011128 Manawa WAKH in Arabic 0835 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 1 Apr (WAKH) -- Khalid Fakhru, director of the Emergency Aid Center of the Gulf Countries and chairman of the task force which was formed from the Gulf Environmental Protection Committee, has stated that parts of the oil slick will hit Bahrain's northern coast within about 5 days.

In a statement published here today, Fakhru said there are now scattered oil patches 21-25 km northeast of Bahrain which are moving at a speed of 10 km per day. He said that if these patches continue to move at the same speed and in the same direction, they will hit the northern coast of the island of Al-Muharraq.

Fakhru said the wind and sea currents have driven other patches of the oil slick toward the northern part of Qatar and this means that they will hit the tip of the island at Qatar or veer off toward the UAE or even continue to drift in Gulf waters.

Khalid Fakhru explained that the biggest of these oil patches is 15 miles long and 8-10 miles wide; it has become a coherent patch because the light crude oil has evaporated from it.

Fakhru described this oil slick as the biggest disaster in the Gulf's history, explaining that control of this crisis is not easy because it requires time, the amount of which cannot be determined.

Fakhru announced that during the next few days equipment and apparatuses will arrive in Bahrain from Denmark; this equipment can withstand strong sea currents and will be used to drive the oil patches away from Bahrain's coasts.

On the effect of the oil slick on the fish in the Gulf region, Fakhru said the oil slick will make the fish relocate, which will result in fish becoming scarce.

BAHRAIN

HEIR APPARENT MEETS BUSH, OTHERS IN WASHINGTON

GF020444 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 2 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] The amir has been sent a message by U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

The message was handed to the Crown Prince and Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah yesterday when he had talks with U.S. Vice President George Bush in Washington.

The meeting, which covered topics of mutual interest, was also attended by Bahrain's foreign minister, Shaykh Mohammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah.

Shaykh Hamad and Shaykh Muhammad have also met other officials, including U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Also the crown prince hosted a reception for leading American defence and foreign affair officials.

On their way to the States, Shaykh Hamad and Shaykh Muhammad stopped in London where they held official talks, including some between the crown prince and Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Ends Visit to U.S.

GF040450 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 4 Apr 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Bahraini Crown Prince and commander-in-chief of Bahrain Defence Force, Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa al Khalifah, left Washington for London yesterday after a four-day visit to the U.S.

KUWAIT

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM ON AIRCRAFT DELIVERIES TO ISRAEL

LD021207 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 2 April -- (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti paper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM today comments editorially on the U.S. President's decision to halt delivery of aircraft to Israel until after it withdraws its forces from Lebanon and expresses skepticism about its implementation.

"Despite the fact that it was a decision made for propaganda and information purposes," the paper writes, "the U.S. decision would not have been made had it not been for the Soviet rush to arm Syria and the attempt to reverse the equation in the Middle East, particularly in the wake of the Soviet ultimatum to Israel and the United States.

The paper adds: "The U.S. decision is a purely information exercise dictated by the current developments in the area.... aimed at checking the Soviet moves ... and has no effect at all on the visible and invisible American supplies to Israel."

The situation has entered a new phase, the paper says, for the Soviets are now making moves unlike in the past, and the United States realizes that it now faces stands, forces, and facts that cannot be easily overcome -- "indeed, the United States has come to realize that Israel is no longer the absolute force in the region."

Further Comment

LD031128 Kuwait KUNA in English 1034 GMT 3 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, April 3 (KUNA) -- Extracts from Kuwaiti newspaper editorials Sunday:

"AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM" on the American decision: "Washington immediately changed its decision on stopping the shipment of F-16 airplanes to Israel, thereby killing the Arab's brief happiness.

"This gesture was not surprising. From the beginning we doubted the honesty of the American decision. These American abnormalities are familiar to us. Most American presidents get themselves entangled in situations which force them to make quick decisions.

"This is exactly what happened to Reagan's statement, where the White House spokesman corrected what was said by the President and changed the content of the statement.

"This quick American initiative to withdraw Reagan's statement on the airplanes explains many mysteries. This initiative clarified that these airplanes could be released at any time to U.S. bases in Israel to participate in directing the next blow to the Arabs.

"This means that the talks on the expected war in Al-Biqa' is not only clamor, it is based on facts.

"The recommended Arab summit might take these facts into consideration and at least hold to its peace plan and support it."

AL-QABAS CALLS USSR WARNING TO ISRAEL 'SERIOUS'

LD021205 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0716 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait 2 Apr (KUNA) -- Kuwait's AL-QABAS today calls on King Husayn to join the roundtable negotiations, saying that the U.S. Administration's decision to halt the supply of aircraft to Israel was intended "as an attempt to influence King Husayn's position and encourage him to believe that the Reagan administration has begun to pressure Israel, hoping that this new development would persuade King Husayn to inaugurate a new round of bilateral talks with Israel."

However, the paper believes that the only real development that has taken place in the Middle East was "the Soviet warning to Israel." The paper adds that this Soviet warning has "serious dimensions," for Lebanon is the only explosive area in the world where the U.S. Marines stand so close to the Soviet experts in Syria. Any friction caused by any Israeli play between the two -- American and Soviet -- military in this charged country could carry the seeds of a flame akin to those of world devastating wars.

OMANI ENVOY ON UAE BORDER, RELATIONS WITH USSR

GF031450 Doha QNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 3 Apr (QNA) -- Mas'ud Salim al-'Ansi, Omani ambassador to Kuwait, stated that His Majesty Qabus' recent visit to Jordan was not intended to drive His Majesty King Husayn to join the peace negotiations "although there is cooperation and exchange of views among the various Arab parties," noting that this visit was in respons to the visit the Jordanian monarch made to the Sultanate of Oman.

In a statement to today's issue of the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, the Omani ambassador denied any border differences between his country and the UAE.

On the Strait of Hormuz, the Omani ambassador said his country's Navy is controlling it completely, adding that the Gulf countries fulfilled their commitment to the Sultanate. He said his country is guarding the strait to preserve its sovereignty and to protect the Gulf countries, affirming that his country will never close the strait.

Al-'Ansi denied that his country is stringent in the entry of the Palestinians. He said stringency for entry to the Sultanate is to preserve its security and stability. "We should not apply political considerations of any Gulf country to the entry of the Palestinian brothers," he added.

On the reason for not establishing relations with the Soviet Union, the Omani ambassador said: "We are not yet convinced of the use of establishing relations with the Soviet Union because of known reasons and for conditions which still stand and because we cannot establish relations with countries that interfere in our internal affairs, although we have relations with some countries that adopt the Soviet ideology such as the PRC, the SFRY, and Romania."

On the visit by His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, the amir of Kuwait, to Oman, the Omani ambassador said it will take place before the end of 1983.

SAUDI ARABIA

ANALYSIS OF GROMYKO'S NEWS CONFERENCE STATEMENTS

LD021742 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Analysis by Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasir]

[Text] Once more, the USSR has rejected a new U.S. proposal for reducing the number of nuclear weapons in Europe. This rejection was made by the first deputy and Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko at a press conference held for this purpose in Moscow today and for which all the Soviet information media were mobilized to disseminate.

At his press conference, Gromyko pointed out that the USSR will do all it can to preserve the current balance of power, which according to the USSR, has been prevailing for several years between the East and the West.

Should this balance be disturbed through the deployment of new NATO missiles in Western Europe, the USSR would take steps to defend its interests, Gromyko said. This is clear. For the Soviets, who now surpass the Americans in the field of nuclear missiles in Europe, do not want to see this situation altered because it simply will not be in their interests. Therefore, Gromyko -- and before him, the chief of staff of the Soviet Armed Forces and many Soviet commentators -- have threatened that the USSR would set up nuclear missile bases close to U.S. territory if the United States were to set up additional missiles in Europe.

It seems that President Reagan has taken these threats seriously. Furthermore, his European allies have advised him to follow a flexible line with the Soviets. He therefore presented a new proposal for the deployment of a smaller number of NATO Pershing and cruise missiles provided Moscow reduces its arsenal of medium-range missiles to the same level. Gromyko rejected this proposal at his press conference today.

Thus, the two superpowers again begin to compete with each other. The new thing about the arms race this time is that the Soviet nuclear missiles will be close to American territories and not confined to Europe alone. This makes the arms race and the conflict of power between the two superpowers a hot, escalating one that mankind watches in fear of its expected frightful consequences.

USSR STATEMENT ON ISRAEL, SYRIA VIEWED

LD021951 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, 2 Apr (SPA) -- The Saudi paper AR-RIYAD comments today on the Soviet reaction to the probability of a new war between Syria and the Zionist entity, which is not unlikely in the opinion of the Zionists as long as they have the opportunity and enjoy the absolute support of the United States.

The paper expresses lack of trust in the Soviet statement, as proven by the war in Lebanon, which dealt a sharp and severe blow to the Kremlin when the Soviet missiles became no more than timber towers in the face of the sophisticated weapons the United States had unconditionally supplied to Israel. Hence the importance of the Soviet statements and the attempts to spark a new wave of controversy in the region, particularl now that the sensitive centers through which the Soviet policy once viewed things have begun to weaken, leaving the United States absolutely free to draw up a new policy stamped by its personality and influence.

We are also not optimistic about the Soviet statement, which aroused Israel's allies, or the American decision to halt supplies of the F-16 military aircraft to the Zionist enemy. This is because the widening of the problem and its development has been a mere attempt at creating a balance between the strategies of the White House and the Kremlin toward the Arab region in a new manner and form.

The Soviets on their part will lose nothing by uttering such a statement since, as usual, they do not bind them to do anything or impose on them commitments that could lead to a limited confrontation with the United States, the paper says, adding that what we must realize is that the next stage for the Soviets is to look for a new role compatible with the 1980's because the Soviets will not accept the loss of new allies and the squandering of opportunities that are now open to them for weaving a new carpet for and participation in, a future peace.

The paper calls on Arabs to be careful in playing the cards of the superpowers, and to draw up a new strategy, based on the interests of the Arab nation, in a rational and mature manner; otherwise, they will be as a legacy of a sick man who sees things but can do nothing.

HUSAYN-'ARAFAT TALKS, REAGAN DECISION VIEWED

LD031550 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 3 April (SPA) -- AL-YAWM denounces the silence of world public opinion which continues to stand by watching the Zionist violations of man, his rights, and dignity. It says that the solution of the Palestinian question at this dangerous turning point is linked with the recent Arab moves, especially the meeting between King Husayn and 'Arafat, which are expected to produce other, broader steps toward the solution of this issue.

It goes on to say that the slowness of the American response to the issue keeps the solution, as it is known, in the hands of the Arabs who, if they adopt a united stand, will undoubtedly be a power which cannot be ignored. It stresses that Arab consensus must be strengthened by Arab military strategy which would then have an effect on the entity that understands only force.

UKAZ also notes in its editorial the meeting between King Husayn of Jordan and Yasir 'Arafat and the forthcoming Arab summit.

It says that some consider the caution prevailing in the Jordanian-Palestinian talks a justification for pessimism about the outcome of the meeting.

The paper says that the Jordanian king and the Palestinian leader were extremely cautious and careful in order that their decision will enhance Arab solidarity and unity and help the cause of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East which will lead to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The paper says that the Jordanian-Palestinian decision in the end will express the will of the Arab nation, therefore it will require the unanimous support and backing of the Arab nation, and this justifies the need to convene a comprehensive Arab summit conference to support the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and to harmonize Arab efforts which until now have been wasted on unjustified Arab differences.

The paper stresses that the forthcoming summit will define the basic differences between the military and the political and diplomatic aspects of the struggle and will seek to resolve the disputes and quarrels existing between some Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The paper stresses that the forthcoming summit shoulders huge burdens and enormous responsibilities because it will be the summit of a united Arab political posture following the united political decisions adopted by the Arab leaders in Fes.

AL-JAZIRAH in its editorial entitled "President Reagan and the Balancing Act Between What Tel Aviv Wants and What Beirut Wants," says that after the departure of the Palestinian fighters from Lebanon and the failure of 25 rounds of talks between Lebanon and the Israeli entity, Israel, through its experience in dealing with the American Administration, and realizing that the American President will press for its unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon without jeopardizing Lebanon's sovereignty over its territory, has begun to threaten to wage a new war against Syria from Lebanese territory.

All this, the paper adds, means that Israel is attempting another adventure and seeks to drag the two superpowers into the abyss of military confrontation in the AL-Biqa' Valley of Lebanon in order to secure an American guarantee for the objectives it hopes to achieve from its occupation.

AL-JAZIRAH describes the decision of the American President to stop delivery of the 75 American fighter aircraft to Israel as the act of a person who tries to walk two parallel tightropes, one from the White House to Beirut and the other from the White House to Tel Aviv. Therefore, he must not lose his balance; he must find a balancing equation between what Tel Aviv wants and what Beirut wants and what is befitting the dignity of a great country in the face of the world's expectations.

UAE

F-16 DELIVERY HALT 'HAS NO MILITARY EFFECT'

GF020856 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0635 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 2 Apr (WAM) -- UAE paper AL-ITTIHAD has inquired about how useful is the step undertaken by U.S. President Reagan to suspend the delivery of a number of F-16 planes to Israel. The paper stressed that this step has no military affect since the Israeli arsenal is inundated with the most sophisticated U.S. planes and weapons; moreover, Israel itself manufactures weapons and exports them. The paper pointed out that this step has more political significance than a military one.

Concluding editorially, the paper inquired whether the United States believes that with the suspension of the delivery of these planes it is thus putting political and military "pressures" on Israel. The paper said: If Washington believes so, is it then not also admitting that it can pressure Israel? Moreover, this very pressure which involves Lebanon can be used in matters dealing with the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights at a time Washington needs "Arab confidence" when it is unilaterally pressuring the Arabs to accept the Reagan plan. The paper indicated that the coming days will answer these many questions. Moreover, the Arabs will answer these questions in the framework of their own pressure on the United States and Israel in the various fields.

PLO's HANI AL-HASAN ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI

GF021323 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1250 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Apr (WAM) -- Hani al-Hasan, member of Fatah Central Committee and adviser of Yasir 'Arafat, arrived in the country early this morning on a 3-day visit to the UAE. Hani al-Hasan is expected to give two lectures on the developments of the Palestinian issue at the UAE University.

AL NUHAYYAN CONGRATULATES HUNGARIAN COUNTERPART

GF021144 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpts] His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has sent a congratulatory cable to Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, on the occasion of his country's national day.

PDRY

SOVIET PARTY-GOVERNMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES

Talks Begin; Ties Noted

GF021657 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Talks between the PDRY side, led by Mahmud an-Najashi, member of the YSP Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Central Committee, and the Soviet side led by Comrade Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, began at the Secretariat of the YSP Central Committee this morning.

During this first round of talks, developments in the international situation and the threats being posed to the peoples and their just struggle because of the imperialist aggressive policy were reviewed. The two sides also exchanged views on several issues of mutual interest. They positively evaluated cooperation relations between the YSP and the CPSU and between the parties and governments of the two countries which are continuously expanding within the friendship and cooperation agreement signed between the two countries on 25 October 1979, and within international solidarity and common struggle against imperialism, racism, and facism and for the sake of socialism, peace, and democracy.

The two sides also discussed means of furthering and reinforcing cooperation and friendship relations between our country and the USSR.

The Soviet delegation affirmed the USSR's firm and strong support for the YSP and our country on the internal and foreign levels. It noted that thanks to the right and principled policy, the PDRY's position is reinforced on the Arab and international levels day after day.

The PDRY expressed deep thanks to the CPSU leadership, the Soviet Government, and the friendly Soviet people for the support and solidarity they have extended and are still extending to our Yemeni people and our Arab peoples, mainly for the cause of our Arab Palestinian people. It also expressed full confidence that Arab-Soviet friendship relations will be furthered and reinforced despite imperialist and reactionary plots to strike at this deep-rooted friendship.

Chairman Receives Visitor

GF031954 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Excerpt] PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad this evening received Comrade Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee. A number of issues that are of interest to developing party and government relations between the YSP and the CPSU and between the government and peoples of the two friendly countries were discussed during the meeting.

Foreign Minister Sees Group

GF031448 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs, received at his office today Comrades Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and Nikita Ryzhov, USSR deputy foreign minister.

During the meeting, which was attended by Brothers Salih Abu Bakr ibn Hasanayn, member of the Central Committee and PDRY ambassador to Moscow, and Muhammad 'Ali 'Inayah, deputy foreign minister, bilateral relations between the two friendly countries were discussed. Both sides expressed great satisfaction for the development of these relations in the interests of the two friendly peoples and countries. The current Arab and international situations were also discussed.

Talks Conclude 3 April

GF031952 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The PDRY-Soviet talks were concluded at the YSP Central Committee headquarters this evening. This round of talks made a complete review of the situation in view of the current developments on the Arab and international levels, which are characterized by the escalation of the imperialist adventurous and hostile policy. The two sides stressed the firm determination of both parties and countries to continue the struggle until the values of peace, socialism, liberation, and democracy achieve victory and until all the sinister plots of the imperialist powers and their allies are defeated.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction at the results of their talks, which will contribute positively in developing cooperation and friendship between the two parties and governments in all fields. They also expressed their satisfaction for the full agreement on all the points that were discussed and reviewed.

MUBARAK, 'ALI MEET WITH KISSINGER IN BEIJING

NC012224 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 1 Apr (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak received in Beijing yesterday, Friday, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger who also received Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

AL-AHRAM says in tomorrow's edition that during the meeting the U.S. role in the Middle East, President Reagan's initiative and Egypt's view on the need for U.S. moves toward the implementation of the initiative were discussed.

Henry Kissinger arrived in the Chinese capital from Tokyo where he had attended a siminar on disarmament in which former FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, former British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew participated.

ABU GHAZALAH SAYS EXERCISES PLANNED WITH SUDAN

NC021734 Cairo MENA in English 1645 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Alexandria, April 2 (MENA) -- Deputy Premier and Defense and Military Production Minister Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said a joint Egyptian-Sudanese manoeuvre will be staged shortly.

The Egyptian Armed Forces are the vanguard of the Arab nation and will always work for protecting it, Abu Ghazalah said in a ceremony held on the occasion of the taking over of Rear Admiral 'Ali Muhammad Tawfiq as commander of the naval forces.

Abu Ghazalah also declared that a number of naval units will shortly join the naval forces to add to its capabilities.

The field marshal also hailed former commander of the naval forces Vice Admiral Muhammad 'Ali Muhammad and commended his efficiency in the fields of training.

JORDAN'S PRINCE MUHAMMAD ARRIVES ON VISIT

NC022207 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 2 Apr (MENA) -- Prince Muhammad, the brother of Jordan's King Husayn, arrived in Cairo today on a private visit lasting several days.

AL-AKHBAR reports in tomorrow's edition that Prince Muhammad and his wife Princess Taghrib will visit several Egyptian cities, including Luxor, Aswan, and Alexandria, before returning to Jordan.

PAKISTANI MILITARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC011912 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] The deputy chief of the Pakistani Army and the delegation accompanying him arrived this afternoon on a 10-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of chief of staff Lieutenant General 'Abd Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz.

He was met at Cairo International Airport by Staff Major General 'Umar Hammad, chief of staff of the central military area, the Pakistani ambassador in Cairo and some senior Armed Forces commanders.

Hafiz Meets Pakistani Counterpart

NC021540 Cairo MENA in English 1510 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, April 2 (MENA) -- Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lt General 'Abd Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz said following his talks today with the deputy chief of staff of the Pakistani Armed Forces that the visit by the Pakistani official aims at getting acquainted with the fields of military cooperation between the two countries, adding that the Islamic state of Pakistan is linked to Egypt with strong ties.

He added that the visit is the first by a senior military Pakistani official to Egypt in many years.

The Pakistani chief of staff extended an invitation to Lt General Hafiz to visit Pakistan.

MUHYI AD-DIN RECEIVES SUDANESE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER

NC021532 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din today met with Sudanese People's Assembly Speaker 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid. They reviewed topics pertaining to integration between Egypt and Sudan and the forthcoming meeting of the Nile Valley Parliament.

CAIRO PALESTINE RADIO ON JANIN POISONINGS

NC021653 Cairo Palestine Radio in Arabic 0630 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Palestinian Popular Talk by Mazin ash-Shawwa]

[Text] Following the poisoning incidents in the Palestinian city of Janin and the hospitalization of several hundred, the Palestinian people, the Arab and Islamic nation, and the whole world and everyone have the right to ask if things in the occupied territory have reached the point where no one there is safe even when going to school. Everyone knows well that the people of the occupied Arab land have been suffering from various forms of repression, oppression, and torture since the beginning of the occupation. Everyone knows well that the people of the occupied Arab territory, both in prisons or outside, are suffering from all kinds of violence, terrorism, and pursuit. Furthermore, everyone knows that the people of the occupied Arab territory are suffering from the imposition of taxes, the storming of houses, markets, hospitals, and schools, and from the campaigns of arrest, imposition of fines and deportation, curfews, travel bans, restriction on residence, and isolating areas by denying them water and electricity. Everyone knows well that the people of the occupied territory are suffering from pressure, restrictions, continual raising of prices, imposition of taxes by the millions, and the attempts to destroy the economy and plants and the demolition of houses. Everyone knows well that the people of the occupied territory are suffering from all forms of terrorism and from being banned from expressing their views, gathering, and demonstrating. Everyone knows the methods of the Israeli occupation forces in treating the people of the occupied territory such as the closure of schools, opening fire on children, and the use of tear gas bombs. Everyone knows the methods of the Israeli forces against the Palestinians through the invasion of Lebanon, depriving them of food, water, and medicines and using the most modern and most destructive weapons against them, not to mention missiles and all kinds of cluster bombs, fragmentation bombs, and phosphorous bombs.

Everyone knows this well and much more, but for things to reach the point of using poisons and poisonous gases against innocent civilians under occupation and using repression, torture, and terrorism to threaten the lives of students in schools and endanger them instead of protecting and caring for their security is extremely dangerous. This must be met by an international measure to secure the safety of our Palestinian people on their land.

AL-AHRAM CONDEMNS WEST BANK POISONINGS

NC030830 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 3 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Mass Poisoning on the West Bank," the newspaper AL-AHRAM expresses its belief that it is imperative that the world focus more closely on the issue of the mass poisoning of the Palestinians on the West Bank. The paper says: It is incumbent on the Arabs to move, after they failed to make the appropriate moves in connection with the Sabra and Shatila massacres, to draw the world's attention to the dimensions of this crime, or to the series of these crimes presently being premediatedly committed on the West Bank. Again leaving these crimes to the reporters and cameramen of the foreign information media might stigmatize the Arabs forever with all that contradicts human honor.

In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says: These incidents are no less grave and significant than the crimes of mass extermination that are primarily aimed at liquidating the Palestinians as a people, land, struggle, and idea.

AL-AHRAM COMMENTS ON U.S. ARMS TO ISRAEL

NC011334 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 1 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "U.S. Investigations," AL-AHRAM says editorially: Whenever the U.S. negotiators break an impasse in the Lebanon negotiations, Israel creates another impasse. This is the well-known game of delaying tactics. Is there any way to break off this series, or is there anyone who can deter Israel from committing these trivialities by reasoning with Israel?

The paper calls attention to the weapons deterrent and says: Naturally, this is the deterrent that hurts Israel. However, the fingers that deter must be strong so that the deterrence will be strong. These fingers will either show kindness or they will slacken. Then, how can the pain be inflicted?

AL-AHRAM makes it clear that in view of its relations with the United States, Israel is a strategic ally. However, Israel d es not monopolize this capacity because other states in the area share this capacity.

The paper expresses its astonishment at Weinberger's announcement that the U.S. investigations which had begun following the U.S. decision to freeze the supply of F-16 aircraft to Israel after the invasion of Lebanon have not yet been concluded.

AL-AHRAM says: This investigation should, among other things, deal with the extent of Israel's bellicosity in launching the invasion. As the statement made by the U.S. secretary says verbatim: The contract between the two countries includes a stipulation that confines the use of U.S. weapons to defensive purposes.

In concluding its editorial, AL-AHRAM, among other things, wonders whether 9 months after the invasion the investigation is still running into stumbling blocks as far as proving Israel's aggression against Lebanon is concerned? It also wonders why, therefore, negotiations are being held in the withdrawal if Israel is not the aggressor? The paper also wonders by which logic does Israel obtain 200 U.S. air-to-air missiles as a reward, as U.S. officials have announced, just because it has approved the principle of a phased withdrawal?

PAPERS COMMENT ON PRESIDENT MUBARAK'S ASIAN TOUR

NC011206 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 1 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] The two newspapers AL-AKHBAR and AL-JUMHURIYAH give top billing to the tour that President Mubarak is making to the east Asian states.

At the outset of its article, AL-AKHBAR elucidates that with the leaders of the four states he will visit President Mubarak will discuss Middle East issues, topics related to the achievement of peace, and economic and trade cooperation between the Arab Republic and Egypt and each one of these four states.

The paper adds that these four states, which President Husni Mubarak will be visiting for the first time as president of the republic, are awaiting this tour because their desire to cooperate with Egypt is a definite and sincere one. Furthermore, these states assumed commendable stances toward Egypt while we were facing up to the crises and hardships that confronted us on the path of the struggle. These are indeed stances that we can never forget. They are stances that grow daily through cooperation.

The paper makes it clear that we have not forgotten how China took a completely honest and sincere attitude toward us when the Soviet Union refrained from supply us with spare parts. At that time, China provided us with all that we wanted, gave us more than we had asked for, regarded this as an honorable transaction, and refused to take a price or anything in return for this big offer ['ata'] through which China intended to project a good image of the relations existing between the two countries.

AL-AKHBAR expresses its belief that President Mubarak's tour of the four states will produce major results, particularly in the domain of cooperation with Egypt to support its economy and implement its production projects. The results of this tour will appear in the near future. First among these projects are agricultural mechanization and the supply of machinery that will help increase agricultural production.

IRANIAN BATTLE LOSSES REPORTED 1-3 APRIL

Communique No 1,046

JN011634 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,046 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 1 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The victory scored by the glorious soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadidisyah over the expansionist Khomeyniite enemy will remain lofty and protected by the brave Iraqis. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our observation posts yesterday evening sighted and pounded a group of enemy troops opposite one of our forward units' positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing two and forcing the rest to flee. Three Iranians, two of them soldiers and the third a civilian, sought refuge with one of our forward units in the same sector this morning. They ran away from Khomeyni's hell and from the tyranny of his suspect, sanguinary regime. They were evacuated to the rear in complete safety and peace.

2. One of our forward units pounded an enemy patrol which tried to approach our forward positions in the central sector of the battlefield and forced it to flee. The enemy also sustained one killed, and two vehicles, one infantry position, and one observation post destroyed opposite our other units' positions in the same sector.

3. Two were killed and one hardware stockpile destroyed in the Maysan operational sector.

4. Today the rancorous Khomeyniite clique sporadically shelled Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin and their outskirts. The savage enemy shelling led to the martyrdom of one civilian, the injury of four others in Basra, and the damage of one house.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 April 1983

Communique No 1,047

JN021551 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Apr (INA) -- An Iraqi military communique has indicated that the Iranian forces' losses over the past 24 hours amounted to 14 dead, a number of wounded, and considerable war materiel destroyed. Communique No 1,047 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening noted that the Iranian enemy today bombarded Mandali and its outskirts, Ash-Shihabi, Zurbatiyah, and the outskirts of Khurmal and Halabjah. The enemy's bombardment left three civilians dead, including two children in a village near Khurmal, and one civilian wounded in a village adjacent to Halabjah. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,047 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In order that Iraq's banner shall remain lofty and its land shall remain unaffected by war and aggression, our brave Armed Forces continued their activities in the operational sectors against the Iranian forces. The following are the results for last night and today:

1. Our forward units, using various types of weapons, attacked a group of enemy personnel opposite their positions in the northern operational sector, killing six and wounding a number of others. The enemy was spotted trying to remove its casualties from the area.

2. Five were killed and one infantry position destroyed -- killing all personnel in it -- in the central operational sector.

3. Three were killed and one hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan operational sector.

4. The criminal Khomeyniite clique today bombarded Mandali and its outskirts, the villages of Ash-Shihabi and Zurbatiyah and the outskirts of Khurmal and Halabjah. The bestial enemy bombardment left three civilians dead, including two children in a village near Khurmal, and one civilian wounded in a village near Halabjah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 April 1983

Communique No 1,048

JN031557 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1515 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Apr (INA) -- During today's military operations on the Iraqi-Iranian battlefront, the Iranian forces sustained 10 killed and 3 infantry positions, 4 observation posts, 1 tank, and 1 excavator destroyed. This was stated in Communique No 1,048 issued here this evening. The communique added that one Iranian sought refuge with the Iraqi forces and that the Iranian enemy today shelled Basra and Mandali, causing some damage to civilian establishments. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,048 issued bh the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As the khomeyniite clique indulges in its arrogance and continues its aggression against mighty Iraq, it finds the brave knights of Saddam's al-Qadisiyah lying in wait for it, teaching it hard and bitter lessons. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units sighted and pounded a group of enemy personnel opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield with artillery, killing six, wounding others, and destroying two infantry positions and two observation posts.

2. One of our forward units opened fire on an enemy tank and excavator opposite our positions east of Basra, destroying them both and setting them on fire. One of our forward units' snipers managed to kill two of the enemy opposite his unit's position in the same area. An Iranian soldier sought refuge with one of our forward units in the same sector. He ran away from the khomeyniite terror and tyranny in Iran. He was evacuated to the rear in complete safety.

3. Two were killed and one infantry position and two observation posts destroyed in the Maysan operational sector.

4. Today the vicious enemy shelled Basra and Mandali and their outskirts, causing some damage to a number of civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 April 1983

OFFICIAL ON SOVIET WEAPON SALES, U.S. RELATIONS

GF030952 Doha QNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Apr (QNA) -- Speaker of the Iraqi National Council Na'im Haddad -- who recently concluded a visit to Moscow -- has stressed that the Soviet Union has lifted the embargo it had imposed on the sale of weapons to Iraq.

In a statement to the Kuwait paper AS-SIYASAH published today, Haddad noted that the Soviet Union expressed its support for the efforts exerted by the United Nations and the other good offices committees to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

On the U.S.-Iraqi relations he pointed out that there are continuous contacts between Iraq and the United States although the United States recently refused to sell weapons which Iraq requested due to Zionist pressure. He termed his country's political relations with the United States as not being currently correct. He expressed the desire that these relations be resumed in a way similar to relations between any two countries. But he pointed out that U.S. weapons were the very same weapons which the Zionists used to kill our people in Palestine and Lebanon and that these very same weapons were used to kill our people in Iraq. He added: We believe that the United States must pressure the Zionist leadership and prevent it from selling or exporting weapons to Iran. He stressed that this will ultimately lead to restoration of relations with the United States.

23 DIE IN IRANIAN-KURDISH CLASHES 2 APRIL

JN031655 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] The Iranian authorities have continued attacks against the positions of Kurdish revolutionaires in Iranian Kurdistan. Reports said that armed clashes took place yesterday between the Iranian regime's forces and the Kurdish revolutionaries killing 23 persons and wounding 12 others.

'AZIZ RETURNS FROM SHORT VISIT TO AMMAN

JN021839 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Apr (INA) -- Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned here tonight following a short visit of several hourst to Jordan. 'Aziz conveyed a message from President Saddam Husayn to King Husayn dealing with the relations between the two fraternal countries and the developments in the Arab situation.

REPORTAGE ON 'ARAFAT VISIT, TALKS HELD

Joint Committee Meets

LD012353 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Amman, April 1 (KUNA) -- PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat chaired here Friday over a meeting of the Palestinian side to the Palestinian-Jordanian Joint Higher Committee.

A comprehensive appraisal of the talks held yesterday by the Palestinian side to the committee was made during the meeting which also discussed the situation in the occupied territories and the stepped up Israeli repressive measures and persecution during celebrations of the Land Day.

'Arafat and the Palestinian delegates also reviewed the necessary measures to be taken by the PLO to put an end to the mass poisoning committed by the occupation authorities against Palestinian children in addition to the continued siege on some refugee camps particularly Al-Jalazun and Al-Am'ari camps in Ramallah area in the occupied West Bank and other areas.

The meeting was attended by Executive Committee members Khalil al-Wazir, Faruq Qaddumi, Hamid Abu Setta, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, Hanna Nasir and Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani besiee executive of the PLO Political Department and representative in Jordan, 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya.

Today's meeting comes prior to the meeting between Chairman 'Arafat and King Husayn of Jordan and the start of the joint higher committee co-chaired by Jordanian Premier Mudar Badran and Chairman 'Arafat.

'Arafat, Badran Confer

JN012118 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran visited PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in the guest palace this evening. Badran was welcomed by Yasir 'Arafat, the members of the Palestinian side in the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, some PLO Executive Committee members, and senior Amman PLO office officials.

Badran and 'Arafat held a meeting attended by Occupied Land Affairs Minister Hasan Ibrahim, Khalil al-Wazir -- alias Abu Jihad -- Brigadier General 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, Faruq Qaddumi, 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, Hamid Abu Sittah, Dr Hanna Nasir, Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh. The two sides reviewed joint Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the latest Arab and international developments regarding the Palestinian question.

His Majesty King Husayn is scheduled to receive Yasir 'Arafat tomorrow, Saturday. The Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee will also resume its meetings tomorrow.

'Arafat, Husayn Meet

JN021626 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The talks between His Majesty King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat began at An-Nadwah Palace at 1400 today.

Attending the talks on the Jordanian side were Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Court; Minister of Court 'Amir Khammash; Staff General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Occupied Land Affairs Minister Hasan Ibrahim; Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim; Minister of Transport 'Ali as-Suhaymat; and Interior Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat. On the Palestinian side, PLO Executive Committee members Khalil al-Wazir, Hamid Abu Sittah, Faruq Qaddumi, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, and 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad attended the talks. Brigader General 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya was also present.

2, 3 April Sessions

JN030617 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Jordanian King Husayn met with Palestinian Leader Yasir 'Arafat twice yesterday without any indication there was an agreement on a joint reply to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's peace plan in the Middle East.

According to a well-informed source in the Jordanian capital, a third meeting will be held between King Husayn and 'Arafat today.

Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces and member of the Palestinian delegation to the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, described the talks as positive but said that no definite decision will be taken as a result of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks that began Friday.

In another development, observers have noticed that a relaxed atmosphere has prevailed over the Palestinian and Jordanian sides in wake of the second meeting which took place between King Husayn and 'Arafat yesterday.

According to Abu Jihad, bilateral relations and the course to be followed at the forthcoming emergency summit conference, which Morocco seeks to hold in the next few days, were discussed. The two sides also discussed the phases in which the PLO and Jordan can cooperate. The two sides are discussing in detail the current situation in the region. The Palestinian official added that no one can predict the results of these meetings. He said that the views submitted by each party are still under discussion.

After pointing out that the two sides are determined to pursue the dialogue, Abu Jihad ruled out the possibility of estrangement between Jordan and the PLO.

Higher Committee Meets

JN030848 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Amman, 3 Apr (INA) -- The Higher Palestinian-Jordanian Committee resumed meeting here today. It was reported here that the committee will focus on future Palestinian-Jordanian relationships, the peace efforts in the region, and issues of common interest.

The Palestinian side is headed by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, while the Jordanian side is led by Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

'Arafat Comments on Talks

NC031427 Paris AFP in English 1415 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Amman, April 3 (AFP) -- Palestine Liberation Organisation chief Yasir 'Arafat today confirmed that the results of his current talks with Jordanian King Husayn would be discussed in an upcoming extraordinary Arab summit, but he refused comment on the talks, simply saying he would toe the Arab line.

Mr 'Arafat, who today began a third round of private talks with King Husayn, told newsmen that the next Arab summit, which will reportedly be held in Morocco, would study "all procedures," but did not specify what the procedures referred to.

The two men are reportedly discussing the terms of an agreement that would allow the Jordanian ruler to participate in Middle East peace negotiations on the basis of a formula that could reconcile the peace plans proposed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and the Arab summit at Fes last September.

President Reagan's plan calls for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip "in association with Jordan," while the Fes plans calls for the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

Mr 'Arafat today refused to comment on the progress of his talks with King Husayn. "Our talks are continuing," he said. "We will comment when they are over".

But when asked whether or not the PLO was ready to accept a compromise between the Reagan and the Fes plans, Mr 'Arafat said: "I am bound by what the Arabs decide, and they adopted the Fes resolution".

(?Commenting on the new) U.S. embargo on the supply of F-16 fighter-bombers to Israel, the PLO chief pointed out that Washington had delivered 200 Sidewinder missiles to the country only last week.

Israeli policies in the occupied territories amounted to "crimes," he said [words indistinct] on Friday's destruction of the Jaffa Hasan Bayk Mosque and recent cases of the alleged mass poisoning of West Bank students.

The PLO executive was meeting today to discuss the "dangerous situation" in the occupied territories and had decided to appeal to the World Health Organisation, the Red Cross and the UN Security Council, he added.

Mr 'Arafat made the comments before beginning his third round of talks with the Jordanian sovereign.

Yesterday's two rounds of talks between the two were described as "fruitful and positive" by Palestinian officials.

'Arafat on F-16's to Israel

JN020610 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Amman will today witness an important meeting between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat. This meeting has been postponed because of King Husayn's engagement with his guest, Sultan Qabus.

Yasir 'Arafat, who yesterday consulted with PLO Executive Committee members and officials from the PLO office in Amman, had met with Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar at the guest palace yesterday evening. The meeting lasted 1 hour.

Yasir 'Arafat declined to make any statement, preferring to wait until his meeting with King Husayn.

When asked about President Reagan's decision which linked the decision to deliver a new batch of F-16 planes to Israel to the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon, Yasir 'Arafat said: This means nothing to me.

'Arafat said that the U.S. decision is not positive and added that the United States is pampering its little baby.

Statement on Talks Expected

JN040742 Amman SAWT ASH-SAH'B in Arabic 4 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] SAWT ASH-SHA'B has learned from well-informed sources that a statement will be issued today on the talks between His Majesty King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The two sides had earlier formed a minicommittee to draft the text of the statement on the talks of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee.

Optimistic Outlook

JN031808 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Jordanian-Palestinian talks continued in Amman today in a less pessimistic atmosphere than yesterday; however, not much is known about the trend of these talks. Perhaps it is better to wait for the final statement on the talks which may be issued tomorrow.

King Husayn received Yasir 'Arafat today for the third time since the PLO leader's arrival in the Jordanian capital. Following this 2-hour meeting, a member of the Palestinian side said that the atmosphere of the talks was positive and that King Husayn's meeting with 'Arafat for the third time is the clear proof of this.

The joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee held another meeting before noon today, which was described by Jordanian sources as fruitful and positive.

At any rate, it is obvious that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue is continuing, but that it has assumed different dimensions and taken a different course. The Palestinians have informed Amman of their rejection of the Reagan plan and, consequently, their refusal to participate in the Middle East talks on the basis of this plan. Amman understands this position, especially since King Husayn has not yet seen the fulfillment of any of his conditions: the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and a freeze on Jewish settlements in the West Bank. Furthermore, the United States has not used sufficient pressure to check Israel.

Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, who is also in Amman, today announced that the PLO only recognizes the Fes resolutions and that it does not consider anything else to be a basis for a just and lasting solution in the Middle East. Qaddumi said that the Reagan plan does not respond to the aspirations of the Palestinian people. He said he is convinced that the United States is not serious in its peace efforts and that Europe could exert greater efforts to help achieve peace.

PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has affirmed that the results of his talks with King Husayn will be submitted to the coming Arab summit, which will be held in Fes during the middle of this month. He said that he fully supports this summit which, he said, should consider all measures.

Asked if he accepts a compromise between the Reagan plan and the Arab peace plan, 'Arafat said: I am committed to all that is decided upon by the Arabs. They are the ones who adopted the Fes resolutions.

We would like to point out that Yasir 'Arafat will remain in Amman until tomorrow at least, when he will preside over a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee to inform all its members of the results of his talks with King Husayn.

'ARAFAT HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN AMMAN

JN031632 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held another round of talks this afternoon.

In Amman PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that his talks with his majesty King Husayn are continuing and are dealing with issues related to the new developments and the distinguished Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. He was speaking at a press conference held in the PLO office this morning after a meeting held by the PLO Executive Committee.

On the proposed peace plans, 'Arafat said: The basis is the Fes summit resolution. The future of the Palestinian people depends on what the Arab decide. On U.S. President Reagan's initiative, he said: It depends first and last on the U.S. Administration's credibility and ability to deter the Israeli practices and to halt the Judaization of lands and establishment of settlements. 'Arafat wondered if President Reagan's administration can achieve this while it is still disregarding all the plots being concocted by Israel to annihilate the Palestinian people and threaten the existence of the Arab people.

On President Reagan's decision to suspend the supply of F-16 aircraft to Israel, 'Arafat said: It is a positive decision. He elaborated: However, the United States supplied Israel with 200 new missiles a few days ago. This is itself is support for Israel's aggression against the Arabs.

On the tense situation in the Al-Biqa' area, 'Arafat said: During the past few weeks Israel has massed five military divisions in front of the Palestinian forces. It is preparing for a new, large-scale aggression against the region.

On the serious developments in the occupied terrritories during the last 2 days and the accompanying encroachments on the Islamic holy places and mass poisoning incidents. 'Arafat said that the PLO Executive Committee held a meeting in Amman this morning during which it adopted some measures in this regard. These measures included the dispatch of urgent messages to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz in his capacity as chairman of the Second Islamic Conference, His Majesty King Hassan II in his capacity as chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, the Arab League secretary general, Pope John Paul II, Indira Gandhi in her capacity as chairman of the recent nonaligned states' conference, and the UN secretary general. He added that the PLO has called for a special UN Security Council session to discuss the encroachments against the Islamic and Christian holy places as well as the mass poisoning incidents in the occupied Arab territories.

'Arafat described the recent encroachments on the Hasan Bey Mosque in Yafo, the Shaykh Jarrah Mosque, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque as premeditated crimes aimed at obliterating the features of the Islamic and Arab civilization in the occupied areas. He added: The killings and destruction that took place in Lebanon during the Zionist invasion and the daily Israeli practices against the citizens in the occupied territories and the Ansar camp are parts of the bestial annihilation of the Palestinian people.

Yasir 'Arafat appealed to the world countries and peoples to condemn the Zionist crimes and to support the Palestinian people in their just struggle to restore their usurped rights.

AR-RA'Y HIGHLIGHTS REAGAN'S CONTACT WITH HUSAYN

JN040727 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 4 Apr 83 pp 1, 17

[Excerpts] The political affairs editor writes: Well-informed sources have said that the U.S. President's telephone conversation with His Majesty King Husayn the day before yesterday has given impetus to the current talks between his majesty and Yasir 'Arafat on the peace efforts and the future relations between Jordan and the PLO.

Reports that leaked from behind the scenes of the current talks indicated that His Majesty King Husayn was behind the U.S. decision halting the shipment of the to Israel pending the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon. The reports added that U.S. President Reagan has pledged to His Majesty King Husayn to freeze the building of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. President Reagan also told his majesty that the United States has other alternatives to bring pressure to bear on Israel to achieve a just peace.

In another development, Yasir 'Arafat will preside over the plenary meeting of the PLO Executive Committee in Amman to discuss the new developments.

At 1700 yesterday, 'Arafat asked that the rest of the PLO Executive Committee members be summoned to Amman. These members are Talal Naji, Abu Mahir al-Yamani, Muhammad Khalifah, Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashashibi, Jamal as-Surani, Mahmud 'Abbas, and 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar. The other members who are already in Amman are 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, Faruq Qaddumi, Dr Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, Hamid Abu Sittah, Dr Hanna Nasir, and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh. 'Arafat also summoned PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum from Damascus and Salim az-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, from Kuwait. It is believed that the members arrived in Amman late last night.

The Executive Committee will meet this morning Amid indications showing the importance of the Husayn-'Arafat meetings and the gravity of the current stage, which requires the approval of all the Executive Committee members with regard to any resolutions or stances that might be adopted by the Palestinian leadership.

AR-RA'Y learned that Hani al-Hasan and Dr Nabil Sha'th are expected to arrived in Amman today to join the Palestinian side to the Higher Jordanian-Palestinian Committee. Hence, 'Arafat's departure has been postponed for not less than 48 hours, a matter that implies the significance of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks.

AR-RA'Y ON SUSPENSION OF F-16'S TO ISRAEL

JN020858 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 2 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline, "What Does the U.S. Decision Mean?," AR-RA'Y says: President Reagan's decision on the suspension of the F-16 planes shipment to Israel until it withdraws from Lebanon is considered the first of its kind, because its continuity is dependent on achieving a definite results; namely the withdrawal. Hence, the U.S. decision goes beyond protesting to putting pressure on Israel.

President Reagan had delayed a similar shipment, because of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last June, as an expression of discontent, but the decision was not accompanied by any result. In 1981, the U.S. Administration suspended a shipment of planes to Israel, because of its raid against the Iraqi nuclear reactor. The decision to suspend the shipment was not accompanied by any specific result, and the shipment was delivered later.

AR-RA'Y adds: Consequently, there is a great difference between this decision, which was declared by President Reagan yesterday, and the previous decisions of protest. There is another difference that is represented by the official French support of the decision stated by the French foreign minister himself. This stand puts pressure on Israel and encourages the U.S. Administration to become firm in putting an end to Israeli intransigence.

The U.S. decision means that the U.S. Administration is capable of putting pressure on Israel. But the importance of this decision is dependent on its result; namely the withdrawal from Lebanon. If this objective is not achieved, the U.S. Administration will be called on to take firmer actions and force Israel to withdraw.

AR-RA'Y concludes: However, it seems that the peace process will not progress until Israel withdraws from Lebanon. In his speech at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council yesterday, President Reagan said that the United States cannot continue with the issue of comprehensive peace in the Middle East unless the Lebanese problem is solved. This means that the ball is still in the U.S. court, and as long as this is the situation, the Arabs can call on the U.S. Administration to prove its credibility on the freezing of the settlements, because there should be complete proof and the necessary justification and grounds for deciding to participate in the negotiations on the basis of the Reagan peace plan.

IRAQ'S 'AZIZ ARRIVES IN AMMAN 2 APRIL

JN021106 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Amman, 2 Apr (INA) -- Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and foreign minister, arrived here today.

Received by Husayn

JN021224 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace at noon today Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz who gave his majesty a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

SALIM DENIES AGREEMENT REACHED WITH ISRAEL

NC012133 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim has denied that Lebanon has reached any final agreement on any matter currently under discussion with Israel. However, he said if the negotiations continue in their present tone, Lebanon will not need any other means to ensure the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from its territory.

Minister Salim denied the contents of a report which said Beirut, Washington, and Tel Aviv have agreed on the formation of a joint military committee. He said this proposal has been under discussion by the negotiators for some time but no agreement on it has yet been reached. He added that this proposal is part of the contents of the talks with Israel on a comprehensive agreement and is not an agreement on certain specific points.

Minister Salim denied press reports that Israel has withdrawn its request to form joint Lebanese-Israel-U.S. patrols to ensure that the Palestinian resistance will not return to southern Lebanon. However, he said that some progress was made yesterday. He added that if this progress continues next week, we will be on the correct course.

VOAL: Joint Patrols Rejected

NC011813 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] In Beirut, Lebanese officials have been busy appraising the results of Habib's recent mission and the progress of the negotiations. Within this framework, a meeting of the political operations room was held in the Republican Palace today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Ambassadors Ghassan Tuwayni and Dr Wadi' Haddad, and the political and military members of the Lebanese delegation to the negotiations.

Sources of the conferees said that Washington is presently seeking to arrive at an agreement acceptable to Lebanese and Israeli sides. The same sources added that at the 25th round of negotiations yesterday an agreement was reached on forming a joint Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. military committee which will have an office inside Lebanese territory and the task of which will be to apply whatever is agreed upon at the security arrangements level.

In relation to the question of joint patrols, the sources confirmed that this is out of the question and is rejected by Lebanon.

It was decided that the political operations room will meet again under the chairmanship of Prime Minister al-Wazzan at 1700 on Monday on the eve of the 26th round of the negotiations which is expected to be held in Khaldah.

It is worth mentioning here that Minister Salim today revealed that he sent a message to Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam dealing with the developments in the negotiations and that Syria sent a reply message affirming that it rejects any agreement with Israel detrimental to its security.

AL-WAZZAN SAYS U.S. OPTION NOT YET EXHAUSTED

NC021222 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has said that the U.S. option, as far as Lebanon is concerned, has not yet been exhausted and that Lebanon has more than one option.

In an interview published today in the weekly magazine AL-AFKAR, he said that the authorities will deliberate these options with those concerned in the event the U.S. option is exhausted.

He added: If you go back to my statements, you will notice that I said that we are passing through a stage in which we have depended on the U.S. option. Before that, we went to the United Nations and turned to our Arab brothers and other friends in the world. We asked all sides to help us. Our march has today brought us to the U.S. station, believing that there will be much drive for our cause in this station.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan pointed out that anyone who finds that the door is closed in his face tries to get out of the window. If he is unable to do that, he tries to get out through the roof, and if he cannot do that, he may tear down the wall to get out.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan paid tribute to Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim for his shrewdness. This proves to us that correct scientific knowledge is able to contribute in all spheres.

SALIM BRIEFS AL-JUMAYYIL ON TALKS WITH DRAPER

NC030742 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has reviewed with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim the latest political developments in light of the reactions to President Reagan's decision banning the supply of F-16 fighter aircraft to Israel as well as the stands on the future of the negotiations, which will be resumed on Tuesday, for the withdrawal of the non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon.

Minister Salim presented a report to President al-Jumayyil on the talks he had held earlier with the head of the U.S. delegation to the tripartite negotiations, Morris Draper. At 1600 yesterday, Minister Salim received Ambassador Draper in his house in B'abda upon Draper's return from Tel Aviv. U.S. Embassy adviser (Alan Kresco) and General Collins attended the meeting. Ambassador Draper presented a detailed report to Minister Salim on the results of the talks which U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib held before returning to Washington. The discussions also dealt with President Reagan's recent decision. Draper said that he felt Israeli resentment of the U.S. President's stand and had requested an official clarification of this stand.

SALIM, KARAMI MAKE STATEMENTS AFTER TALKS

NC031334 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil today sent Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim to the north to brief [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah in Zgharta and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami in Tripoli on the progress of the current negotiations on ousting the non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon and to consult with them on everything that will ensure Lebanon's higher interests during this delicate phase.

Minister Salim has arrived in Zgharta and met with President Franjiyah from 0945 to 1105. Upon emerging from President Franjiyah's palace, Minister Salim said that President al-Jumayyil sent him to the north to meet with President Franjiyah and Prime Minister Karami. He told our reporter Antoine Ni'mah:

[Begin recording] Naturally, it is our duty to always come to His Excellency President Franjiyah to brief him on the negotiations, especially during all important phases in the negotiations. We gave him a complete picture of what has happened so far -- the Lebanese, Israeli, and U.S. stands -- and we received his views and guidance. His excellency the president has strong stands, especially on certain points which we shall take into consideration. Certainly, his excellency the president's experience under the most difficult circumstances in Lebanon is very important because we are still in a difficult phase. Therefore, we are always in touch with the genuine Lebanese leaders. In addition, today is a feast day and on this occasion, we came to congratulate his excellency the president on the holiday and to wish him long and happy life. Furthermore, I am a northerner and from time to time, I must come to the north to ensure that my dialect remains a northern one and does not get spoiled by the ones in Beirut. [end recording]

From Zgharta, Minister Salim proceeded to Tripoli where he met with Prime Minister Rashid Karami. After the meeting, he said:

[Begin recording] There is a big uproar in relation to every clause of the awaited agreement. This is neither the place nor is it the time to discuss the clauses of the agreement which are being discussed in the tripartite committee. I do not want to add to the uproar which has now become common knowledge. All that I want to say now is that I have been honored by visiting His Excellency Prime Minister Karami. In the name of his excellency the president's visit to New Delhi, and after our visit to Washington, I came to the city of Tripoli, the second capital, to talk with His Excellency Prime Minister Karami and to brief him on the atmosphere that prevailed in the Nonaligned Summit Conference as well as on the talks we held in Washington.

I presented to Prime Minister Karami all the phases of the discussions in the tripartite committee and briefed him on all the clauses on which an agreement has been reached and the clauses on which there is disagreement. I was furnished with his views and advice. His Excellency Prime Minister Karami has honorable national stands, profound wisdom, and great experience. We in the government must visit from time to time and on every occasion obtain the views of the Lebanese leaders who have participated in very difficult phases of Lebanon's history. His Excellency Prime Minister Karami has shouldered responsibilities at the most difficult times and he will, God willing, shoulder responsibilities in the future. All of us are responsible and, therefore, cooperation is inevitable among the Lebanese family, today, tomorrow, and the day after. This visit is part of a series of visits which I had to make to the north and to talk with the responsible leaders who bear Lebanon's banner in the north, in Lebanon and, in the whole world. His Excellency Prime Minister Karami is foremost among these leaders.

[Question] Your Excellency the Minister, you have been quoted as having said that there will be solutions soon -- solutions that will preserve the Lebanese sovereignty and dignity. Can we learn what these solutions are?

[Answer] I have not been quoted as having spoken about imminent solutions.

[Question] Your Excellency the Minister, God forbid, supposing the negotiations fail. What will the government's stand on this be?

[Answer] I believe that the negotiations are proceeding in a straight line and we hope that they will lead to good results in the interest of Lebanon and for the restoration of Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and dignity. I am fully confident that the negotiations will lead to the desired results. [end recording]

Prime Minister Rashid Karami also made a statement after the meeting in which he asserted that the United States can, if it wanted, compel Israel to withdraw from Lebanon. He said:

[Begin recording] The Lebanese side has expressed its readiness to do everything it can, within the framework of sovereignty and the higher national interests, to secure what will ensure what Israel wants -- that is if Israel is sincere in what it alleges, but if the purpose is to (?affect) the sovereignty and, consequently, achieve normalization, which has nothing to do with Israel's security -- and this is what exposes its intentions -- then, nobody can agree to what Israel is requesting.

[Question] Your Excellency Prime Minister: Have you given his excellency the minister a message for his excellency the president?

[Answer] Undoubtedly, the talk was comprehensive and his excellency the minister will inevitably convey our view to his excellency the president of the republic. Among other things, I expressed the view that we must benefit from the Arab stand, if not collectively then individually, as well as from the international situation because, on this level, we find opportunities and possibilities which we must employ to serve the Lebanese right. [end recording]

RADIO FREE LEBANON OPTIMISTIC ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS

NC040819 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Radio Free Lebanon has learned that there are positive signs indicating developments in the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations which could result in a remarkable rapproachment. These developments would be reflected in the negotiations even before the return of U.S. envoy Philip Habib to the area.

These positive developments come as a result of backstage contacts among the countries concerned with the solutions in light of the political relations which exist among them. It is anticipated that this optimistic atmosphere will be reflected in direct negotiations this week, that is by reaching an agreement on a number of issues which are still unresolved, particularly the security arrangements, joint patrols, and the question of Sa'd Haddad.

Within this framework, it has been learned that unilateral partial withdrawals are no longer a matter of discussion and that the negotiations and contacts will be based on the principle of full and comprehensive withdrawal. This does not mean that this week will be the week of resolution, but it will undoubtedly be a decisive one.

NEGOTIATION TEAMS REDUCED TO FOUR PERSONS EACH

NC041243 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that for the coming negotiations, teams will be limited to four members on each side, two civilians and two military men, with the aim to accelerate the negotiations. Well-informed sources anticipate that progress will be made during the intensive negotiations between the Lebanese and Israeli sides.

'RADIO FREE LEBANON' ON SAM BASES, SYRIAN POSITIONS

NC021800 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] While the weekend news carried no prominent development in the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations, there are signs of a Syrian-Israeli military clash as a result of the convulsion in the situation in the wake of the recent Soviet warnings to Israel and in light of the military preparations being made by Israel and Syria.

Within this framework, security reports say that Syria is basically concentrating on reinforcing its military presence in the following areas:

1. In the Al-Biqa': in Shtawrah, Kafr Zabad, Al-Masna', the western Al-Biqa'a, the Ba'labakk ridges, Janta, and Ma'rabun.

2. In the north: in Tripoli, the Cedars, "Akkar as-Sahl, and Al-Qulay'at.

3. In the mountain [Al-Jabal]: in al-Matn ash-Shamali, and Tarshish.

The reports add that Syria has established SAM bases in the following areas: at Shtawrah, two bases near Ta'nayil, one base in Kafr Zabad, one base in Ma'rabun, one base in the Cedars, two bases in 'Akkar, and one base between Tarshish and 'Aynturah. In Al-Masna'a area, the Syrian forces have set up two SAM-5 bases.

Information received from Damascus indicates that the Syrian forces in Latakia cut the Tartus highway on the night of Wednesday-Thursday to allow the passage of freight vehicles carrying Soviet-made missiles which were transferred from Latakia port to several Syrian military bases. Among the vehicles, the information adds, was one carrying radioactive material, which was carefully transported after it was about to cause a catastrophe as a result of an accident in the Latakia area.

In yesterday's newscasts, Radio Free Lebanon revealed the permanent presence of Soviet experts in upper Al-Matn where they are supervising the installation of sophisticated Soviet arms and the establishment of Syrian fortifications in the area.

Well-informed sources in Damascus today said the Soviet warning to Israel has been made in coordination with Syria following the visit paid by the deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. It is recalled that the Soviet Union last Wednesday warned Israel to stop playing with fire, confirming that Syria was not alone. During his visit to Damascus, the deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium declared that the purpose of his visit was to affirm the Syrian-Soviet cooperation. The same sources indicated that the Syrian Government informed the Soviet official of the Israeli military preparations in the Al-Biqa' plain, particularly the positions opposite the Syrian forces. The sources said the Syrian officials were informed several months ago of the Soviets' intentions in the area.

TRIPOLI MOVEMENT WARNS SYRIANS TO LEAVE

NC031207 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] In Tripoli, a movement calling itself the movement for the liberation of the 10,452 square kilometers [harakat tahrin al-'ashrat alaf wa al-arba' mi'ah wa al-ithnayn wa al-khamasin kilometer murabba'] distributed a statement yesterday calling for the rejection of the Syrian forces and the terrorist organization's practices.

The movement's statement said: We have had enough of the crimes, murders, and destruction committed by the foreigners here. Tripoli and its people do not want you. Whoever wants you should leave with you for good. The movement's statement said: We have made a decision to confront any foreign soldier and anyone responsible for him.

The statement concluded: The movement knows how to strike and how to hurt. The Syrians have only to leave. No force, however great, can stand against our will, the will to live.

HADDAD ASKS GOVERNMENT FOR NEGOTIATIONS

NC040802 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] In a special interview to be published today by the Beirut English - language magazine MONDAY MORNING, free Lebanon's commander Major Sa'd Haddad exphasizes that the presence of the Syrian occupation forces and not his future or the future of free Lebanon's army forces constitute the main obstacle to the withdrawal of all the foreign forces from Lebanon.

The commander of free Lebanon calls on the Lebanese Government to enter into official negotiations with him on his future and the future of Free Lebanon's army forces.

In the course of his interview with MONDAY MORNING, he says that, during the past 7 years, Free Lebanon's army forces gave cogent proof of their loyalty and adherence to Lebanon and of their ability to guarantee security, order, and stability in Southern Lebanon. Maj Haddad says that he and his forces' continued presence in the south constitutes a natiaonal and popular necessity. He says that he is prepared to leave his position should the circumstances require and that he will not involve himself nor his forces in a war with the Lebanese legitimate authority whose preservation has been his foremost goal.

In the course of his interview, Maj Haddad emphasized that Israel does not pose a danger to Lebanon but, on the contrary, it is the only friend of Lebanon. He says that, if it is true that Israel is occupying Lebanon, he and his forces would have now been fighting against Israel. The commander of free Lebanon calls on Israel not to withdraw its forces from Lebanon before the Syrian forces withdraw from it.

In previous statements, Maj Haddad had often emphasized that he and free Lebanon's forces have not basically dissented from the Lebanese Army and that they have defended Lebanon and its soverignty with all their power against the foreign occupiers -- Syrians and swindlers [Palestinians] -- and that he and his forces will not lay down their arms unless the last Syrian soldier leaves Lebanon. Maj Haddad also stressed the need for the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanon, first of all because the Syrians, after having failed to occupy all of Lebanon and annex it to Syria, are now contemplating staying and being content by annexing part of it. It is known that the Al-Biqa' governorate, which alone constitutes 42 percent of Lebanon's entire area, is mostly under Syrian control, let alone the northern governorate, the city of Tripoli and part of the Jabal Lubnan governorate.

REPORTAGE ON USSR MIDEAST STATEMENT, REACTION

Meets Syrian Hopes

JN011449 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] There is not the least doubt that the statement the USSR Government issued 2 days ago met our people's hopes for substantial support for their national and pan-Arab causes. The statement stressed the fact that Syria is the citadel of Arab struggle against Israeli expansion and the U.S. ambitions in the region. It also stressed the need to adopt a firmer stand against Israel and its hostile intentions and expansionist schemes.

Israel's hostile policy would not have reached this level of arrogance and haughtiness had it not been backed by the United States. Therefore, it was not surprising that the USSR's warning to Israel implicitly included Israel's U.S. supporters, who are facilitating its aggression and savage crimes against our Palestinian people and their Arab nation. The U.S. supporters are even taking part directly in these crimes.

The USSR's warning was motivated by the need to curb Israel's instinct for aggression and hegemony and to restrain its U.S. supporters. It was also motivated by the need to entrench Syria's steps toward a strategic balance with its Israeli enemy. It is illogical to expect great success in thwarting aggressive intentions unless a deterrent force is made available. The USSR Government's statement indicated that Israel intends to deal a piratical blow at Syria. This indication is an unequivocal assertion that the USSR will not remain silent about Israel's superiority after As-Sadat's treasonous initiative, which encouraged Israel to annex the Golan Heights, invade Lebanon, repeatedly threaten Syria, and search for other means of aggression through its exhibition of skill in belligerency.

It is time to cure Israel's aggressive tendency. It has become necessary for Israel and its U.S. supporters to know that the Arab region is not open to them and that this region has a nation that will selflessly and valiantly fight for and defend its rights, sacrificing its sons in the battle of honor and heroism.

Arab Syria highly values the friendly USSR's firm stand against Israel and its supporters as expressed in its statement. Syria knows that this stand is primarily based on the treaty of friendship and cooperation which was signed 2 and 1/2 years ago between Syria and the USSR. There is no doubt that the treaty is throbbing with life and fulfilling the requirements of joint stand by firmly confronting and continuously struggling against Zionism, imperialism, and all attempts at aggression, hegemony, and exploitation.

With Syrian Cooperation

JN021611 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] In Damascus, a well-informed source has said that the Soviet warning to Israel was coordinated with Syria. The source affirmed that the warning was issued at the end of the visit to Syria of the deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

TISHRIN Comment

JN040908 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 4 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the caption "The Era of the Free-Hand Policy Has Gone Forever," TISHRIN writes the following comment: It is no longer a secret that the Zionist enemy, with the participation of U.S. imperialism, has completed its steps preparatory to launching a military offensive against Syria. Likewise, it is no longer a secret that what is hindering the execution of this military operation is the Israeli and U.S. fear of the results and of the huge losses, which are expected to overshadow all the losses that have been inflicted on the Zionist enemy since 1948 and until now.

TISHRIN adds: Syria today is not that of yesterday. Syria, which has given top priority to the construction and strengthening of its intrinsic power as a step toward building a strategic balance with the enemy, has made substantial strides that make it capable of defending itself efficiently.

Perhaps the uproar raised by the imperialist and Zionist propaganda over the deployment of the SAM-5's practically reflects the Israeli fear of the inability of the Zionist aircraft to do as they like in the Arab airspace as was the case before. What intensifies the enemy's fear is that Syria, despite the intensification of its military capability, is not alone in the battlefield against the Zionist entity and its partner, the United States. All the freedom forces in the world and the socialist bloc led by the USSR, the Arabs' strategic friend, are placing their weight in favor of Syria.

Surely, the U.S. Administration and the Zionist enemy have realized the meaning of the Soviet warning against any military adventure against Syria. They must surely have understood the significance of the press conference held yesterday [as heard] by the first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and foreign minister, in which we clearly touched on the dangers inherent in such an adventure. If the Soviet warning was issued against Israel, Gromyko's press conference was directly addressed to the U.S. Administration. All this means that the Soviet Union is quite serious in terms of its stance which supports Syria and which rejects the imperialist-Zionist aggressive course.

TISHRIN adds: The new Soviet stance is clear, particularly since it has exposed the full partnership between the U.S. Administration and the Zionist entity and demonstrated that what is taking place in the Arab region has been jointly coordinated between U.S. imperialism and Israel. Perhaps the U.S. Administration has started to feel the danger menacing its strategy in the region -- a strategy aimed at entrenching the Zionist occupation and reimposing the imperialist hegemony on the entire area. The Pentagon strategists have clearly realized that the era of the U.S. free hand policy is holding the strings of a solution in the area has gone forever, and so has the era of the Zionist free hand policy. This is what has actually prompted the U.S. officials to utilize all their tools in the region to render the Jordanian-Palestinian talks successful -- talks which aim to bring Husayn to the U.S. peace negotiations. The U.S. officials have even talked about the possibility of Reagan visiting the region should Husayn join the negotiations. All these are attempts to save the Reagan's initiative now that the U.S. Administration has realized that the Camp David course has reached a blind alley.

Reagan's telephone call to Husayn is perhaps the best evidence of this. But it is certain that the U.S. Administration cannot and will never be able to impose its will on the nations.

TANNUS MEETS USSR-SYRIA AMITY GROUP OFFICIAL

JN021846 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 2 Apr (SANA) -- Comrade Dr Wahib Tannus, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and chairman of the Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society, received here today Comrade (Oleg Fomin), deputy chairman of the USSR-Syria Friendship Society. The Soviet ambassador in Damascus, the representative of the Union of Societies for Friendship With Peoples and some members of the Executive Bureau of the Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society attended the meeting.

Comrade Tannus briefed the guest on Syria's steadfast and principled stand under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, and Syria's solid confrontation of the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary designs. Comrade Tannus then quoted President Hafiz al-Asad's historical speech at the nonaligned summit in New Delhi where the president said, in part: Israel and the United States are looking for the impossible while we are for peace and against capitulation. We will resist all capitulatory attempts and defeatists. We admit that the United States is a superpower and that it can intimidate, strike, destroy, and annihilate thousands or even millions, but it cannot and never will defeat the nations' will and determination to live decently and honorably.

Comrade Tannus highly praised the Soviet Union's stand in support of the Arabs' just issues and struggle to build a just peace and liberate our usurped land.

Responding to Comrade Tannus' address, Comrade (Fomin) lauded the strong ties between the Soviet and Syrian peoples and parties, stressing the USSR's determination to back up Syria's struggle in defending its independence and steadfastness against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction.

The two sides also reviewed the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two societies. The sides expressed satisfaction for these relations that are continuing in the interest of the two peoples.

REAGAN STATEMENT ON F-16'S DRAWS ANGRY RESPONSE

Foreign Minister Shamir

TA011739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has defined as very sorry [metza'eret beyoter] the announcement by U.S. President Ronald Reagan that the IDF is an occupation force in Lebanon and that the F-16 fighters will be supplied to Israel only after the IDF withdraws from Lebanon. Shamir said Israel had explained to U.S. Administration heads in Washington that the action in Lebanon was intended for defensive purposes and some of them were sure to understand this.

The negotiations, the foreign minister added, are being prolonged because of our desire that northern Israel not be attacked again by terrorist forces.

Resentment Expressed

TA021813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] The Israeli charge d'affaires in Washington has expressed Israel's resentment over President Reagan's order to withhold the supply of F-16 fighters to Israel until it withdraws from Lebanon. He met with the U.S. deputy secretary of state and with Philip Habib to discuss this matter. He again stressed that Israel does not intend to hold any part of Lebanese soil.

The U.S. diplomats again made it clear to him that this is not a new decision and it should not be treated too severely.

DAVAR: 'Great Anger'

TA030715 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Apr 83 p 2

[Text] There was great anger in Jerusalem at the end of the week on learning about President Reagan's remarks that the supply of F-16's to Israel would not be resumed as long as the IDF remains in Lebanon as a conquering army.

The DAVAR correspondent has learned that in unofficial consultations between ministers the possibility was put forward of a sharp Israeli reaction, such as an announcement about stopping the talks with Lebanon and unilateral Israeli steps such as a unilateral withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River.

The Jerusalem Foreign Ministry has sent appropriate instructions to the Washington representation.

The issue is to be raised at the weekly Cabinet session that is to be held on Wednesday, 6 April, after the holiday.

In Jerusalem the remarks by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, who also spoke about the matter of the Middle East at a news conference, were received with reserved satisfaction. Gromyko said Moscow supported Israel's existence and demanded a withdrawal of all the foreign armies from Lebanon.

Israeli political sources regard these remarks as moderate compared with the sharp Soviet warning the Soviet Union gave Israel last week.

SHAMIR INTERVIEWED ON LEBANON, F-16 ISSUE

TA011824 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Menashe Raz in the studio on 1 April -- videotaped]

[Text] [Shamir] It is clear to us that the announcement by the Soviet Union is based on unfounded facts. We have no doubt that the Soviet Union knows that Israel has no intention or plan to attack Syria. We also presume that the other party has no intention of engaging in such activity. Therefore, it is difficult to tell precisely what Soviet intentions are, unless the intention is to prevent the situation from subsiding and calming, as we near the conclusion of the negotiations with Lebanon.

[Question] Was there not a similar feeling in 1967 when the Soviets stuck their fingers in affairs much the same way, and a short time later the war broke out?

[Answer] That past experience naturally calls for caution and alert on our part, but there is also another turn of phrase, which says that history never repeats itself exactly.

[Question] Mr Shamir, some people argue that as a consequence of the Peace for Galilee war, the superpowers are far more involved in our region, which is not conducive to claiming things down here.

[Answer] I do not believe this is true. It is no secret that the Soviet Union and the United States have most broad interests in the Middle East, and one must also view things and the developments and events in a global context, rather than view them only from the Israeli angle.

[Question] In the global context, when the two superpowers are do seeply involved in this region, does this increase sensitivity?

[Answer] Well, this fact cannot be altered -- that there are superpowers and that they sometimes have conflicting interests. Yet this should not prevent Israel from defending its own interests.

[Question] Israel has found itself these days on the one hand firmly and sharply warned by the Soviet Union, whereas on the other hand President Reagan has been saying he would delay the supply of F-16 aircraft for as long as we remain in Lebanon as conquerors.

[Answer] This might mean something, namely, that Israel defends its interests and only those interests. As for President Reagan's statement, I would say that this is a regrettable [metza'eret] statement because, after all, the U.S. Administration knows that we entered Lebanon not to capture its land or hold on to it, but to remove and destroy the terrorist deployment which grew and grew along our border and constituted a serious danger to our security. After we accomplished this mission, we have nothing more to do in Lebanon. The negotiations currently under way are intended to achieve only one thing: preventing the recurrence of that phenomenon, which we went out to fight in the war.

[Question] Do President Reagan's declaration and the U.S. involvement in the negotiation with Lebanon not indicate that the Americans are employing a stance that is unacceptable to us and that is not conducive to the cause at hand from our point of view?

[Answer] Obviously we have differences of opinion with the United States over some things and matters. This is natural and normal. Obviously the United States also has its own interests. Yet, I still, despite everything, believe that we are nearing an agreement.

[Question] Mr Shamir, why is Israel insisting on the removal of the Syrian Army from Al-Biqa' in Lebanon? Some argue that the fact that the Syrian Army is dispersed and scattered in the Golan Heights, in Syria proper, and in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' can only serve to help Israel because Syria would be unable to concentrate belligerent efforts against us. Some argue that under certain circumstances and in a certain situation the Al-Biqa' area could serve as a deathtrap for the Syrian Army. Why, then, are we insisting that they leave Lebanon as well?

[Answer] Look, there are many reasons for this, but Israel's position is clear: We need Lebanon as a neighbor, an independent and sovereign neighbor whose land is free of all conquest. This is the best thing for our security and well-being. On the other hand, after all, the thousands of PLO members who are currently stationed in Al-Biqa' enjoy Syrian auspices. They will depart together with the Syrian Army, and this today is an acceptable formula in the international community: the simultaneous withdrawal of all foreign forces. We insist on this. We enjoy international support for this and I think we should pursue this.

[Question] How can one sovereign country dictate to another sovereign country -- and you have just said that we need an independent Lebanon -- so how can we dictate to a sovereign country who will command its forces in the south?

[Answer] This is a good question, but after all Lebanon is not a country like any other country in the world. This is not a country in a normal state. For 7 or 8 years it was under real occupation and conquest by Syria and the PLO. It is natural, and it happens moreover following a state of war and conquest, when we have to leave Lebanese territory, that certain arrangements are being made which, to a certain extent, temporarily impinge on the sovereignty of some country. Even with Egypt, when we drew up the peace treaty, we stipulated security arrangements which limit Egypt's sovereignty in the Sinai, for example, the multinational force and observers, the limitations, the demilitarization -- all these are limitations on sovereignty. But after a state of war it is necessary and acceptable, for the sake of peace, to have this.

[Question] Does that imply that our demand that Major Haddad be left at his post in the southern area is a temporary demand -- that is, not for a long time?

[Answer] We say this. We think that in the future the Lebanese Army will be able to maintain security over all Lebanon by its own force. But in the next few years, maybe in the next 2 or 3 years, it will not be able to do so. It has to build itself up. It has to reinforce itself. Therefore, what we are asking for in regard to security arrangements is for a limited and agreed upon period of time.

[Question] Mr Shamir, the Lebanese themselves said today that Israel is showing flexibility in the negotiations. We gave up many of our demands, so the Americans can come and say that if only the Haddad issue is left, will the whole negotiation process collapse because of it, will it get stuck because of him?

[Shamir] Look, in every negotiation there are various points the sides bog down over, and it seems to everybody that here everything will break down. This should not frighten anybody. Maj Haddad, his forces, are a very important part of the security arrangements, and we insist on it; we do not think that this harms Lebanon. After all, Haddad and his people are Lebanese patriots; therefore, I think there is no need to get excited. We shall insist on our demands and we will reach an agreement [heskem].

[Question] Up until not long ago we spoke of warning stations, we spoke of airborn and sea patrols, we spoke of normalization in the relations with Lebanon. These things were presented as principles which we will insist on for Israel's security. It seems we do not talk about this anymore. Might not this endanger the northern border? The very fact that we gave up these principles?

[Answer] The fact that we do not talk about it does not mean we gave it up. There are certain things which were already agreed upon.... [interrupted]

[Question] [Words indistinct] warning stations?

[Answer] Warning stations were not agr ed upon. But we did not give them up yet. But almost all the other things you mentioned were agreed upon.

[Question] That is, Israel will be able to hold airborne and sea patrols.... [interrupt

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] In Lebanon?

[Answer] Airborne patrols without a doubt. Sea patrols still have to be discussed.

[Question] And what sort of normalization will there be in the relations of the two countries?

[Answer] [Words indistinct] there is, there will be a normalization agreement. The details are still being worked on, but there will be a normalization agreement.

ISRAELI MESSAGES TO SOVIET UNION REPORTED

TA031018 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Apr 83 p 1

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Through diplomatic channels and through a third country, Israel has explained to the Soviet Union that there are no grounds for Moscow's claims that it intends to attack Syria.

In messages to Moscow Israel has explained that it intends to evacuate Lebanon as soon as arrangements are achieved that will guarantee its security and that it has no territorial or other demands in Lebanon.

Official Israeli sources are preserving a complete blackout on everything involving the diplomatic channels with the Soviet Union, but MA'ARIV has learned that Israel maintains "communications channels" with the Soviet Union despite the absence of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's remarks at a news conference yesterday are regarded by Jerusalem as an expression of a certain "lowering of tone" by the Kremlin toward Israel after the unprecedented threats made last week.

U.S. EXPERTS ARRIVE TO STUDY POISONING INCIDENTS

TA040820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Two U.S. experts from the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta arrived in Israel last night. Our correspondent Elihu Ben On notes that this is the world's most important center for the investigation of diseases.

Health Ministry Director General Barukh Modan had asked them to conduct an independent survey of the phenomena in Janin and other towns in Judaea and Samaria because of the large amount of publicity generated around the world. As soon as they arrived they met for their first talks.

Five hundred people were sent to hospitals in Judaea and Samaria yesterday after complaining of poisoning symptoms. Most of them were released after a few hours.

IRC REPRESENTATIVE FINDS NO TRACE OF POISONING

TA031813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] A representative of the International Red Cross [IRC] who came to Israel to investigate the hospitalization of the girls in Janin has concluded that there is no evidence of poisoning. Dr (Fransico Alther), a doctor from Switzerland, met today with the director of the Health Ministry and the Israeli investigation team for a concluding talk. In answer to a question by our correspondent Elihu Ben On, Professor Modan said the IRC representative spoke to doctors in Janin and to the sick people.

He intends to leave for Geneva in 2 days to deliver his conclusions.

EYTAN INTERVIEWED ON SOVIET THREAT, SYRIA

TA031145 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Apr 83 pp 13, 14

[Interview with Lieutenant General Refa'el Eytan by Dov Goldstein and Ya'aqov Erez: "The Soviet Union Is Behaving Cautiously and We Have No Information That It Intends to Bring its Soldiers Into a War With Israel" -- date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Chief of Staff, during the war and especially after it, Israel's authorized spokesmen repeated that the Soviet Union had been stripped bare, helpless, turning its back on its allies, Syria and the PLO. It was also declared that Soviet weapons had failed and that the United States had won excellent achievements thanks to Israel and the IDF. In view of what is now happening in the arena, is it possible to say that all this was harmful, false talk?

[Answer] Who said that? Did I say it? I did not say it. Without referring to what was said by those who said it, I am speaking as a military man and I say that all the Soviet weapons systems we have encountered in the battle arena since the Sinai campaign of 1956 and in the wars since then have been superb weapons systems in all fields. It is a fact that we use such weapons in large quantities, from light arms to heavy arms, and these are superb weaponry and excellent systems.

As for the Soviet Union being "stripped bare," I do not want my remarks to be understood as though I was criticizing those who said this, but my opinion is different. The Soviet Union is a superpower of 250 million citizens covering an enormous territory of more than 20 million square km. This is not something that can be stripped and presented in its nakedness. The Soviet weapons did not fail, neither in this war nor in any previous war. It was only those who used the Soviet arms who failed, just as they failed when they used Western weapons systems.

[Question] You said that Soviet soldiers might take part in the next war if there is one between the IDF and the Syrian Army. There are those who think that even in such an extreme situation the United States would not intervene in the war. Is the IDF prepared to fight the great Soviet Army without U.S. aid?

[Answer] I said and I will repeat it, that this could happen. It has already happened, in the war of attrition on the Suez Canal. I do not think that the Soviet Union is looking for a military clash with us. We have no information that there are Russian soldiers on Syrian territory, who could man ground units and take part in a war on the ground against the IDF. The SAM-5 batteries are immobile weapons. They have been position in Syria to defend its airspace, not to initiate conflagrations or military actions against Israel.

I do not think that the Russians have promised the Syrians, or that they are prepared to use fighter planes with Russian pilots in wartime. It is not inconceivable that this situation will change in the future. We cannot know this in advance. However, as far as we know, at this moment and according to all information in our possession, this is not the picture and this is not the situation. The Soviet Union is behaving cautiously on this issue. We also have here the superpower interrelations and the Soviet Union is calculating its moves with a degree of caution, having to consider and evaluate whether to take part in a clash against the IDF or in military incidents or military activities while knowing that the United States has a commitment to Israel's security -- according to the statements and declarations of the U.S. leaders.

[Question] Has there been a change recently in the Syrian deployment relative to our forces in Lebanon and could operational activity develop there?

[Answer] We have not identified changes in the Syrian deployment along their lines. There is acceptable Syrian activity, fitting in with their activity after the winter, with the beginning of the training year. I do not know whether they are plotting something in order to heat up the atmosphere on the line. And I do not know what could influence the Syrians to develop such a trend. Negotiations with Lebanon are now being conducted in which the Syrians are not a partner. They can heat up the atmosphere in order to torpedo the negotiations and prevent the chance of reaching an arrangement. But they can also join the negotiations, at a certain stage.

The Syrians and the Russians are spreading rumors that we are about to attack the Syrians. They themselves know that we have no such intention. The question is: This being so, if they know that we have no such intention, why are they spreading the rumors? Perhaps they are plotting to do something, but for the moment I have no idea of what form this could take.

[Question] Is Israel's strategic position after the war worse than it was before it?

[Answer] Just a minute, why are you asking whether its situation is worse? Why do you not ask if its situation is not better than it was?

[Question] Because before the war there were no SAM-5's in Syria, Soviet involvement in Syria was not so deep as it is now. Soviet-Syrian relations were less close and there were fewer obstacles on the pathway of relations between Israel and the United States.

[Answer] Israel's strategic position is now much better than it was before the war, despite the fact that SAM-5's have been positioned in Syria. A strategic position is not measured only according to the balance of military forces and it is not assessed only according to military changes that have occurred. A strategic position is a combination of political and military status. We have peace with Egypt, which did not collapse with the war. There are problems with Egypt. There is the Taba problem. There is coolness in relations. But peace has not collapsed because of the war. That is a very important point.

There are U.S. soldiers in Lebanon. The presence of SAM-5's in Syria may be the Soviet answer to their presence. And perhaps this is also the answer to U.S. soldiers in a promise to Syria: We will defend your country's airspace.

Relations with the United States are very valuable for Israel, but I do not think that in the sum of considerations for evaluating our strategic position, the fact that we have arguments and disputes with the United States means that our situation after the war is worse than it was before it. In order to determine what was changed in our situation, we must view the current situation with a correct evaluation of what would have been had there not been a war.

Before the war the PLO fired Katyushas at our settlements and we were helpless because we could not find the Katyushas and destroy them. Destroying them could only be done on the ground. In all the calculations, the PLO's status in Lebanon and our ability to act against it now must be weighed against what existed before the war. The war had a decisive affect on the PLO's status in Lebanon and its chance of founding a Palestinian state.

Something else should be remembered: Egypt has turned from the East to the West. Russia is now helping Syria with all its strength. But Syria is only one country in the Middle East and the Soviet Union at present has only one close ally in the Middle East. Egypt has a Western tendency: Its motivation for war is in inverse relation to its relations with the West. The closer these relations become, the more the motivation for war decreases.

Altogether, if we examine each point objectively and rid ourselves of the internal struggles, our strategic position, both in the immediate and in the long term, has not only not been damaged, but on the contrary, has become stronger.

[Question] Recently there has been talk of the possibility that Israel would unilaterally withdraw to the Al-'Awwali line. What guarantee do we have that the PLO will not return to Beirut and other areas and not rebuild itself?

[Answer] If we withdraw from the lines where we are now, we will do so for several reasons. We will not just do that. We have no intention of doing things that would pave the way for the PLO to return and settle down in Lebanon. The main and primary reason for an Israeli withdrawal movement, which has not yet been decided upon, and these are vain and worthless rumors, is the achievement of security, that the terrorists will not return to Beirut and other areas. The condition for any movement of IDF forces, even one of 0.5 mm in Lebanon, is a guarantee that this will not happen. If it is a question of a partial withdrawal by the forces in Lebanon, then too several conditions would have to be fulfilled: If we descend to the Al-'Awwali, the Syrians must move away from the current lines.

A second thing is that the multinational force (MNF) is playing its role in Lebanon. The Lebanese do not want the Syrians and the terrorists to remain in Lebanon. They have an army which is now concentrating all its efforts around Beirut. The Lebanese have no interest in letting the terrorists return to Beirut and the other areas and rebuild their terrorist deployment. If this were to happen, it would mean the destruction of the Lebanese regime.

[Question] How do you evaluate the Lebanese Army?

[Answer] It is in the building stage. This Army can work toward the objective of internal policing, since the PLO was given the decisive blow, and not let the terrorists return to Beirut and raise its head. When there is talk about the PLO's attempts to return to Beirut and rebuild itself, the reference is not to 300 or 400 people with light arms. This means heavy weapons, tanks, Katyushas, and everything they had in Beirut before the war. Even if 500 terrorists return to Beirut and find Kalashnikovs that had been hidden somewhere, this cannot be compared with the terrorists' strength before the war and the large military infrastructure they had succeeded in establishing. The Lebanese Army knows that if the terrorists were able to return to their previous situation, Lebanon would again be destroyed and the Army could not stop this.

[Question] Is the embargo that the United States has imposed on the 75 F-16's for Israel jeopardizing the superiority of the Israeli Air Force, which is faced with the ongoing strengthening of the Arab air forces.

[Answer] Our superiority is not measured in the quantity of aircraft in our possession. This is not the first time that the United States has held up military equipment for Israel, including planes. If I say that this is not jeopardizing our superiority, the Americans will say: "Okay. We will continue this embargo for another 2 years." If I say that it is jeopardizing our superiority, the Jews will panic: "We are in danger!" The truth is that there is no need to get all worked up. We must discuss the issue with the Americans, as other issues, calmly, and explain to them what the real situation is. I hope that the embargo will very soon be lifted.

[Question] Are you in favor of the stationing of a multinational force (MNF) in Lebanon within the framework of an arrangement?

[Answer] No. There must be such security arrangements that we will be able to guarantee that the terrorists do not return. We must not rely on another element, another organization, or another framework. We have already had a bad experience with UNIFIL and there is no need to repeat that experience.

[Question] What are the security arrangements desirable to Israel?

[Answer] There are no grounds for the claim that we want to remain in Lebanon and rule it. We have no such intentions. Our entire interest is only to guarantee that the terrorists will not be able to act against Israel in the security zones.

[Question] It seems that one of the most difficult obstacles to achieving an arrangement in Lebanon is Major Haddad's status. What is Haddad's importance? Is Israel again betting on one man, as it did when it bet on Bashir al-Jumayyil?

[Answer] A country does not bet. Nor are we gamblers. A country examines its needs and decides on the essential measures to guarantee its interests. Haddad is both a man and a principle -- the security system that Israel needs, and that includes within it southern Lebanon and its citizens, who suffered badly for a long time from the horrors of the terrorists. The State of Israel in its war against the terrorists because of its interests allowed the citizens of southern Lebanon to exist and get out of the terrible situation they were in under the burden of the terrorists. Haddad is a Lebanese officer who was sent to southern Lebanon by order of the Government of Lebanon and he was given a mission, to save the south from the claws of the terrorists. He cooperated with us. We should be honest toward him and we must make sure that he is not punished because of the fact that he cooperated with us, on the basis of common interests.

[Question] Is guaranteeing Haddad's status in southern Lebanon an absolute Israeli condition, or an issue for negotiation, with the possibility of making positions more flexible and compromising?

[Answer] One does not set ultimatums in negotiations. Negotiations are conducted and positions and demands are presented. Haddad and the principle of the south as a buffer zone under Haddad's command is one of the issues for negotiations.

[Question] In view of the Soviet Union's threats and the massive supply of weapons to Syria, is Israel interested in the U.S. soldiers remaining in Lebanon?

[Answer] Israel has never asked the United States to station its soldiers in other countries. It certainly did not ask for U.S. soldiers to be stationed on its soil. The presence in Lebanon is the United States' affair, for its considerations. The State of Israel should not calculate the U.S. Marines in Lebanon in its balance of forces with Syria, against anyone and anything Syria has.

[Question] Was the war your high point in your term of office as chief of staff?

[Answer] A war is not a high point. That is not the right expression. The war was in my term of office as chief of staff. I do not know whether high points should be defined at all in the post of chief of staff. It is the custom to assume that after a high point, with all its activity, there is a drop. A drop lies in wait for every high point. No, I would not call various events that occur during somebody's term as chief of staff high points. I prefer another definition. The term in office as chief of staff is a line that stretches from a certain point to a certain point. If this is a line that has a constant movement upward, it is a sign that the chief of staff was moving upward from stage to stage. If the line is filled with pits -- ups and downs, ups and downs -- it is a sign that the chief of staff was unstable. According to this guideline, I would advise others to analyze my period as chief of staff. I do not need to analyze.

[Question] As a commander and soldier who has taken part in all of Israel's wars and made great achievements in all of them, on the various levels, do you think that political reality can be changed by war and political solutions reached or are we always in a situation of the army achieving victories in wars and the impression of the achievements afterward is eroded and melted away in the political process?

[Answer] That is our main problem in the Middle East. If matters were only dependent on us, not one war would break out here; it is true that when there is no political recess after the war, you end one war and you are already standing at the entrance to the next one. Let us look briefly at all the wars: If the 1949 cease-fire agreements had been fulfilled and carried out, the Sinai campaign of 1956 would not have broken out. The cease-fire agreements stated that negotiations were to be conducted to achieve peace agreements; that there would be no hostile activities on both sides of the border; that there would be free shipping in the At-Tiran Strait and the Suez Canal; that there would be free access to the sacred sites and Mount Scopus. Not one of these things was carried out. The first war ended (the war of liberation) and along came the fedayeen and the attacks. There was no free access to the holy places. There was no free shipping. There was nothing. Along came Israel's retaliatory actions. Afterward there were larger acts of retaliation. The Sinai campaign broke out. We came out of it the victors, without a binding political agreement. We were promised that there would be free shipping and there would be no fedayeen and the straits would be open. Nothing was realized. As soon as the war was over, we were standing at the entrance of the next war. The cease-fire was violated. Nothing grew out of all the initiatives and plans and contacts. The ground was ripe for the Yom Kippur war in 1973 -- at the Arabs' initiative.

Here, for the first time, there was a change: peace negotiations with Egypt. If those negotiations had been conducted in 1949 and had they then ended as the negotiations after the Yom Kippur war ended, the wars with Egypt would then have ended. We can now say that after the war in 1973 there will be no more wars with Egypt. We can at least hope. Because a peace agreement was signed, for the first time after a war.

In Lebanon we found this type of war without a political arrangement with the terrorists That was back in 1981. Then in June 1981 a cease-fire was obtained, but fighting continued. The terrorists said: "We are maintaining the cease-fire on the Lebanese border, we are not firing. But we are allowed to kill Jews in other places in Israel and we are allowed to attack Jews abroad and you will sit silently because, after all, we are maintaining the cease-fire on the Israel-Lebanese border." That is what they said. Before the cease-fire they were lost and about to fall flat. As soon as the cease-fire was achieved, they used the year up to the war to regain strength for the purpose of renewing the war. They did not obtain that objective because we realized what was going to happen.

Negotiations are now being conducted with Lebanon. If they achieve their objectives, as the Government of Israel has presented them, then there is almost no chance that there will be another war in Lebanon. The war was not with Lebanon, but against those who conquered it, pulverized it, ruined it, ruled it, and from it worked against us.

Therefore, we must stubbornly negotiate and we must not be impatient and shortsighted. If we give up, then the next war will come very soon. In the Middle East it is impossible to make peace with everyone all at once and over everything. The negotiation with Egypt were difficult. The negotiations with Lebanon are difficult, but there will be an agreement. Jordan may join the neogotiations and there will be an agreement with it, without there being any need for another war. Syria will remain as the last problem for all our neighbors. I cannot predict whether there will be another war with Syria before a political arrangement is achieved, but if Syria joins in, now or at any point, in negotiations with Lebanon, the chance of another war occuring will decrease, although it will not be completely removed. Consequently we must be stubborn. But we must not destroy the negotiations and we must not give up. Iron patience is needed.

[Question] Can you and do you want to refute the claims that in the war the IDF failed to obtain its goals on the Beirut-Damascus highway according to schedule, not because of the government's agreement to a cease-fire, but because of military failure?

[Answer] This is not true! Absolutely false! Why was the cease-fire accepted that Friday? What happened? The cease-fire was accepted, as always in the Middle East, because the Syrians collapsed and demanded it. This is the only reason. The Syrians failed to slow us anywhere. Had they succeeded in slowing us and had they not fallen apart in the fighting, they would not have requested the cease-fire. We did not request it. Outside elements came to the Syrians' rescue at the last moment. And the Syrians, trying very hard, maintained the cease-fire and are maintaining it to this day. That took a great effort on their part. I am not saying that the government shoul not have accepted the cease-fire. This time we behaved differently with the Syrians from what is customary in the Middle East. This time we behaved toward them without the war of attrition rules. Not cannon against cannon; not artillery against artillery. If the Syrians fire despite having agreed to a cease-fire, we advance. Thus, the Syrians were forced to maintain the cease-fire, which saved them.

[Question] Is it true that in one of the battles with the Syrians, an IDF brigade was beaten very severely?

[Answer] One night a tank brigade engaged a Syrian force that had recently taken the area involved. The brigade suffered losses. After a hard battle the brigade withdrew, leaving dead. We also had three missing in the battle.

[Question] Has the Syrian Army rebuilt itself since the war?

[Answer] In equipment and fighting means it has replaced what it lost. It has also completed rebuilding units that suffered heavy losses in Lebanon. I do not have any data, and therefore I cannot say anything about their fighting spirit and the fighting ability of the Syrian Army, and whether it learned the right lessons from the war or not. I am mainly lacking in data on the condition of the Syrian Air Force. It suffered very heavy losses during the war. After such a defeat it is hard to say whether the Air Force will return to operative ability within less than a year. It might have gone back to the inferior state revealed in the war. At the end of last year we shot down two Syrian aircraft: a MIG-25 and a MIG-23. Since then we have not had any clashes and we have no information about the state of the Syrian Air Force. It had very serious morale problems after the war, as well as the problem of the SAM's.

[Question] Is it true that during the war Defense Minister Sharon acted as a senior chief of staff, giving direct orders to field commanders, while bypassing you and damaging your authority?

[Answer] No. This did not happen.

[Question] Never before has it happened that the chief of staff was not invited to any Cabinet session during the war and did not participate in any Cabinet session. Were you angry over this? Whose fault is it?

[Answer] I could have participated in all the sessions, but I did not want to leave the military arena. The defense minister was very knowledgable in all that occurred during the war and that was enough. I was glad that I was able to remain with the forces in the front.

[Question] Did it not worry you that the defense minister did not invite you?

[Answer] No. I was glad to be able to stay with the soldiers in the front.

[Question] Is it true that the defense minister asked you to report to the prime minister, or to the whole Cabinet, that the general staff command does not accept the Kahan commission's conclusions, and that you refused to do so?

[Answer] I do not remember such a thing.

[Question] Why do you refuse to react to the conclusions of the Kahan commission after it judged you severely and did not add an operative recommendation only because your term of office was about to end and the possibility of your term being extended was not discussed, as they put it?

[Answer] Because I am in uniform.

[Question] And this imposes silence?

[Answer] It does not impose silence; I impose it upon myself -- and I indeed keep quiet.

[Question] Are you disappointed that the commission's conclusions were the last word on your service as the chief of staff?

[Answer] No. I am not disappointed.

[Question] As chief of staff you served under four defense ministers. Can you please tell us how you acted under the four, who were different in character and policies? After all Weizman, Begin...

[Answer] Wait a minute. I know their names; I do not have to be reminded. It might sound strange: I did not change my or the general staff command's modus operandi under any defense minister. I always acted consistently -- as I think and feel and must act toward the political echelon. It is an unfounded slander to say that when Begin was defense minister I was the acting defense minister. This is a total lie. Perhaps others thought and think differently, but I had my own way of how the general staff command acts in relations with the political echelon and with the defense minister. I reject all the attempts to claim that with one defense minister I acted one way and with the other in another way.

[Question] From your brief experience with the new defense minister, Moshe Arens, do you feel more comfortable? Is it easier for you to work with him than with his predecessor?

[Answer] For me it makes no difference whether it is an old or new defense minister, or whether he is young. I have known the incumbent defense minister for many, many years. I did not change my style of work when Mr Arens replaced Mr Sharon.

[Question] If you were offered an extension of your tenure by another year, would you consent?

[Answer] I do not know. I have not given this any thought. Five years is a long time.

[Question] Do you regret any decision you have made?

[Answer] No. Not even one.

[Question] Your candidate for chief of staff, as suggested to the Cabinet, was not accepted. Did this hurt you?

[Answer] I made no recommendation to the Cabinet. The Cabinet did not ask for my opinion.

[Question] Since Moshe Levi was appointed, should the other two candidates remain in the army?

[Answer] That is thier own private business, and the business of the next chief of staff. I am in no position to decide for my successor whom he would like to work with or whom he would not like to work with. The one at the top of the army should select the team that works with him. When I was appointed chief of staff, I asked the other candidate for the post to be my deputy. I worked with him for 4 years and we divided up the work wonderfully. I did not replace even one major general upon my assuming office. I only did that 1 year later, when some people wished to retire.

[Question] It has been quite some time now since any new army appointments have been introduced. Is this detrimental to the army?

[Answer] No, not at all.

Question: You have repeatedly been saying that when you end your term in office you will return to your farm in Tel 'Adashim, and that you have a lot of work waiting for you there. You also said that you will fly together with your reserve unit in the Air Force and would not seek any politically influential position. This shows that you have never before retired from the post of chief of staff and that you are not aware of the implication of retirement. Do you really believe you can go back to the anonymity of farming and carpentry, or do you know that this is only a temporary state of affairs?

Answer: I am going home. I believe this is possible. If you do not believe this is possible, you have a right not to believe this. I do, however, because I know myself. This is not a strategem. I am really going home. It is true that I have had no previous experience in this, but I can imagine how it will be. I had once retired, when a captain and I sat home for about 18 months until I was told that I must return to the army, which I did.

Question: People have said that you are the most political chief of staff we have ever had...

Answer: Citing what examples for this?

Question: Your statements on the territories.

Answer: In what way did I make more statements than Mota [Gur] or Dado [El'azar]?

Question: An interview where you are quoted as referring to the religious affiliation has also been mentioned in this context...

Answer: Nonsense. If I had said that I supported a Palestinian state, [word missing] would have said: There is a chief of staff who recognizes what security problems are. Mota and Dado also made remarks. I regret no remark I have made. Anyone who said I was a political chief of staff are saying this for internal political reasons. What I said never exceeded what my predecessors said.

Question: What was your toughest decision as chief of staff?

Answer: There were a number of difficult and delicate decisions where only a thread separated success from failure. One such example is the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor. Even though in retrospect the decision appears to have been simple, since they came and went and the reactor is a shambles. Still, it was an exceedingly tough decision, a most courageous one. Both politically and militarily there were operational decisions I am still not at liberty to disclose, which also wavered very delicately between success and failure.

KREISKY TALKS TO DAVAR ABOUT PRISONERS

TA030705 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Apr 83 p 1

[Report by Hana Zemer]

[Excerpt] Last night, in a telephone conversation with DAVAR, Chancellor Kreisky said that "as long as the mediation mission is under way, I am optimistic." The chancellor said that the talks about the exchanges of prisoners were currently "at a critical stage."

Bruno Kreisky, who was spending the weekend resting before the renewal of his election campaign, told DAVAR from his vacation site that the head of his office, Dr Herbert Amry, was now returning to the Arab side and the negotiations were very complicated and exhausting. "The mediation is in the hands of an excellent man who knows the Middle East. The best thing he can do is not to talk or describe the situation too much. There are people who are pessimistic about this," he said, "but I am not one of them."

LIBYA

JABIR MEETS PALESTINIAN FACTION LEADERS

LD030404 Tripoli JANA in English 1800 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 19, April 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- Commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, at midday today received a number of the leaders of the factions within the Palestinian resistance: Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command; 'Isam al-Qadi, regional secretary of As-Sa'iqah (the organisation of vanguards of the popular liberation war) and Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of Popular Front of Palestinian Struggle.

CONFERENCE ON GREEN BOOK TO START 7 APR

LD031639 Tripoli JANA in English 1427 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Al-Bayan al-Awal, Jumada Thani 20, April 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- On April 7, the first international conference on Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's thought (Green Book) will take place in Jamahiriyah. 1,000 intellectuals and researchers will take part in conference in addition to political leaders from various countries in their capacity as intellectuals.

The conference is to take place at the University of Qar Yunis in the city of Al-Bayan al-Awal under the auspices of and the participation of the teacher, thinker Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who provides fundamental and final solutions to all human problems.

The starting day of the conference coincides with the anniversary of the students' revolution which brought out the creative abilities of the students in Jamahiriyah, thus forming an important revolutionary force part of the real forces of the revolution and in compliance with the first part of the Green Book. The conference is to be held in response to the wishes of many leading intellectuals in order to explore further the universal dimensions of this pioneering humanitarian thought. At the Caracas symposium in November 1981, the international intellectuals who participated insisted upon the importance of holding such a conference to provide conducive opportunity in order to bring out the contents of this thought which stimulates human knowledge and makes it an eternal thought, permanently inspiring.

The conference is an indication of the wide universal dimension of the third universal theory which has begun to have practical influence in the world as a whole. While the participation of a large crowd of distinguished intellectuals from Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Australia point out that scientific interest and towering intellectual belief in this theory is not limited to the Third World countries and that it extends to all parts of the world from East to West, to North to South.

Hundreds of journalists, reporters, writers, and politicians, international and local, will cover this great international conference of thought which was in response to those journalists' and intellectuals' wishes.

All arrangements and preparations have been made for their journey to Jamahiriyah and to cover the conference giving international aspect to it.

This conference is taking place at a time when the world is going through economic and political turmoil and dangerous social deterioration, thus forcing millions of people everywhere to turn to their universal theory which draws up the map for the eventual salvation of humanity and creates the final solutions to the problems of total humanity.

JANA's correspondent said that so far over 350 papers have been received and that they will be presented and discussed during the conference which will last till the 15th of this month.

This conference is the wrapping up of previous conferences and symposia which took place in Jamahiriyah and outside it.

In Jamahiriyah many meetings and conferences were organised on the third universal theory including the international law conference on the Green Book in the city of Al-Bayan al-Awal, 17 April 1979; the conference of Banghazi on the Green Book, 1 October 1979; the conference for Arab students who are studying in Jamahiriyah, 18 March 1982; the conference of Al-Fatih University on the Green Book, 25 October 1982; the third conference of Aaab students in Jamahiriyah, 5 February 1983.

COMMENTARY ON U.S.-CHAD RELATIONS

LD020140 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 1 Apr 83

[Text] Last night [1 April] the Security Council finished hearing the slanderous complaint Hissein Habre made against Libya on behalf of the U.S. Administration for the purpose of destabilizing and provoking the Libyan Arab people.

The session, the second to be held by the Security Council on this slanderous complaint, reveals the extent of U.S. involvement in Chad and the frenzied attempt to escalate tension and widen the scope of the civil war in Chad.

In an action which is understood to mean that the U.S. Administration has decided to create disturbances and direct provocations against Libya, the day before yesterday U.S. President Reagan announced the appointment of a new U.S. ambassador to Chad, [words indistinct] the notorious CIA man who has been trying to strengthen the Habre clique in Ndjamena since Jonuary 1982.

Despite the subversive attempts of the U.S. Administration and its agent's delegate in the Security Council, these efforts failed. A number of African, Arab, and Islamic delegates denounced the U.S. stand toward the Jamahiriyah.

JANA: U.S. ACTIONS THREATEN UN SURVIVAL

LD031541 Tripoli JANA in English 1417 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 20, April 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The U.S. Administration has once again affirmed that its flagrant interference in the domestic affairs of independent countries is the cornerstone of its foreign policy that seeks to impose hegemony and exercise brute oppression against various peoples, especially those suffering from economic problems.

The position enunciated by the U.S. in the debate that took place in the United Nations Security Council during the last two days is a dangerous indicator pointing to the fact that the U.S. and its allies are intentionally seeking to undermine the principles upon which the U.N. and Security Council were set up.

This was made evident to political observers in the U.N. who warned that the attempts of the U.S. and French permanent representatives were totally opposed to international norms and goals.

It was noted that the U.S. and French representatives were attempting to heat up the Security Council debate by exercising overt pressure on some member countries in the economic weaknesses. Such a flagrant position poses serious threats to the world organisation.

In short, the exercise of pressure by the U.S. and French representatives on some countries with the intention of turning them against Libya threatens the very survival of the United Nations Organization. Therefore, the use of such methods poses the urgent question of either leaving the U.N. or replacing it. For it is impossible for countries seeking truth and justice without coercion to remain prisoners of imperialist pressure. These countries will therefore only find a platform outside the U.N. or through the formation of an alternative organisation to express their own views.

JANA REFUTES 'ADVENTURE' CLAIMS BY KUWAIT PAPER

GF261930 Kuwait AL-HADAF in Arabic 25 Mar 83 p 1

[JANA's reply to AL-HADAF's report on Libya's adventure against Sudan, reply mailed to AL-HADAF by JANA]

[Text] The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-HADAF, which is dedicated in its new form to black propaganda, published false claims against the Jamahiriyah leaked to it by parties that were, still are, and will continue to be agents and faithful subordinates of U.S. imperialism and who propagate Zionist goals against the Arab nation.

In a false report adopted by paper, it claimed that a new adventure was carried out by Libya between Egypt and Sudan in which a Libyan ship was sent to Sudan through the Suez Canal at the time when, as the paper claims, there was direct contact with the Egyptian regime. And, according to the story of false rumors that was published by AL-HADAF, the ship's cargo of arms was seized in Port Sudan and the ship was monitored by Egyptian intelligence as it moved through the Suez Canal.

As is obvious, this story is an intrigue in an overt and exposed manner. It is void of any evidence or fact for the reader to accept its credibility. AL-HADAF or the column of advertisement collecters and bribe-takers in it cannot afford to bring a single shread of evidence to substantiate the credibility of these claims. Thus, we affirm that the space which the newspaper allocated for this intrigued rotten report was prepaid. Those who received the bribe colored the report and presented it in a manner that pumps malice and exposes their subordination and corruption. What the newspaper published does not cause surprise nor does it draw a new image of its stands, but confirms the same image of the sickening positions of those who were recruited by the CIA, the parasites who applauded for the shah, and of the scum who hailed Camp David (the stable of David) and cheered in the presence of traitor As-Sadat and in the presence of his dogs, terrorist Begin and racist Carter, and then received the price and the commission. They market the products of Qaha Company for stewed beans [ful Mudammis]. All those are known for forgery and hypocrisy, just as they are known for their propagation of lies and for embellishing the stands of the insolent and the despicable.

The story which was published by the paper with the aim of falsely accusing Libya, is further evidence to their fall, decline, and reality as bribe-takers and agents who know nothing but how to praise the hysterical and ignorant authority. They don't have any feeling or affiliation except as much as they are paid.

[Signed] The JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY

MOROCCO

LE MONDE REPORTS ARREST OF DLIMI AIDE

PM032137 Paris LE MONDE in French 24 Mar 83 p 44

[Unattributed report: "General Dlimi's Aide de Camp Arrested in Rabat"]

[Text] According to information from a very good source in Paris, Major Majoub Tobji, General Ahmed Dlimi's aide de camp, was arrested in Rabat at the beginning of last week and since then his family has had no news of the vanished man. His wife and father, a former noncommissioned officer in the French Army, were asked to leave the staff quarters to which the Moroccan officer was entitled.

Gen Ahmed Dlimi, director of the king's aides de camp, director general of studies and documentation (counterespionage) and commander of Morocco's southern military zone, died in mysterious circumstances on the Marrakesh road on 25 January following a meeting with Hassan II, and despite the official theory of an automobile accident the circumstances of his death have not yet been properly clarified.

Maj Majoub Tobji had taken part in the regular army's Saharan campaign against the Polisario forces and he had been Gen Dlimi's aide de camp for about 2 years. He accompanied the Moroccan general on a brief visit to Paris which Gen Dlimi made incognito 2 weeks before his death.

SUDAN

SECURITY ORGAN CAPTURES LIBYAN AGENTS, ARMS

JN031800 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Apr (SUNA) -- An authoritative source at the state security organ told SUNA here today that a security force in Kassala in the eastern region managed to capture 19 G-3 rifles, 13 Kalashnikov rifles, and quantities of bullets and magazines upon storming a house in Kassala on 27 March. Two were arrested. The first is called Al-Mahi al-Maqbul, a taxi driver in Kassala, and the second 'Abdallah Hasan 'Abd al-Karim, a foreman in a Kassala sugar refinery.

The source added that preliminary investigation revealed that the two defendants and the weapons seized in their possession are connected with the abortive Libyan sabotage plot of last February. The source said that the state security organ is watching the moves of the agents and hirelings with vigilance, well aware of all Al-Qadhdhafi's plots and desperate attempts against Sudan and its people.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

EXPELLED SPANIARD CHARGES DEVELOPMENT AID MISUSE

AB031019 Paris AFP in English 0925 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] Madrid, April 3 (AFP) -- A Spanish citizen expelled from Equatorial Guinea accused of spying and plotting said on his return this weekend that the authorities in Malabo were misusing Spanish development aid.

Francisco Fernandez Gaberna, who said he had been held for nine days in the former Spanish colony, described an accusation that he had sought to kill President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbaszago as absurd. He told journalists that his problems in the country began when he happened to discover a fraud in which two government ministers were involved and in which a large amount of money was at stake.

Mr. Fernandez, 29, said this fraud had led him to suspect Spanish aid was being used dishonestly. Spanish aid to Equatorial Guinea amounted to 3,000 million pesetas (30 million dollars) last year. But he declined, however, to elaborate on the alleged misuse of funds, saying that he wished to speak to Foreign Minister Fernando Moran and the international relations secretary of Spain's ruling Socialist Party about it. He went to Equatorial Guinea to work as manager of a plantation. which had been the object of Spanish financial aid.

The Spanish press reported on Friday that Mr. Ferndandez, who was accused by the police in Malabo of spying and taking part in a coup attempt, was detained in the West African state.

FIVE GROUPS OPPOSED TO OBIANG MEET IN SPAIN 1 APR

AB031051 Paris AFP in French 1640 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] Zaragoza (Northeastern Spain), 2 Apr (AFP) -- About 50 representatives of five movements opposing President Obiang Nguema's regime in Equatorial Guinea began in Zaragoza on Friday a meeting aimed at strengthening their collaboration, Wgejo Ecube, one of the organizers of this meeting, announced on Saturday.

In statements to the press, Ecube maintained that the Equatorial Guinean head of state had not justified the hopes placed in him by his countrymen after the overthrow of dictator Macias Nguema in 1979. The major problem presently facing Equatorial Guinea, he continued, lies in what he described as total disrespect of the law. "There is a Constitution but Parliament does not sit; political rights do not exist; and freedom, including that of religion, is seriously threatened," he said.

Many of the 50 participants have Spanish citizenship and do not desire to return to Malabo, like Ecube, a lawyer, who has been established in Saragosse for many years.

The five movements participating in the meeting are the Equatorial Guinean Liberation Front, the National Alliance for the Restoration of Democracy in Equatorial Guinea, the Movement for the Freedom and Future of Equatorial Guinea, the Front for the Liberation of Fernando Po, and the Democratic Reform of Equatorial Guinea. The main objective of the Saragosse meeting is to reduce the numerous differences dividing these groups, the organizers say.

Observers note the absence of the Democratic Rally for the Liberation of Equatorial Guinea (based in Paris) of Manual Ruben Ndongo, who in Paris on 7 March formed a transitional government in exile named the "Executive Council for Reorganization."

SENEGAL

AFP REPORTS APPOINTEES IN NEW GOVERNMENT

PA040056 Paris AFP in English 0731 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] Dakar, Apr 4 (AFP) -- The new government appointed Sunday by President Abdou Diouf on the occasion of the 23d anniversary of Senegal's independence:

Prime Minister and foreign minister	Moustapha Niasse
Defense	Medoune Fall (formerly interior)
Interior	Ibrahima Wone (new)
Economy and finance	Mamadou Ioure (former also responsible for planning and cooperation)
Supply	Robert Sagna (former secretary of state for fisheries)
Culture	Abd Kader Fall (formerly education)
Universities	Ibrahima Fall (new)
Education	Iba Der Thiam (new)
Rural development	Bator Diop (new)
Industrial development and crafts	Serigne Lamine Diop (formerly rural development)
Scientific and technical research	Moussa Daffe (new)
Housing and urban affairs	Hamidou Sakho (new)
Trade	Abdourahmane Toure (new)
Planning and cooperation	Cheikh Hamidou Kane (formerly industrial development)
Information and communications and relations with (?parliament)	Djibo Ka (unchanged)
Justice and keeper of seals	Dbudou Ndoye (new)
Civil service, employment and labor	Andre Sonko (new)
Health	Mamadou Diop (unchanged)
Social affairs	Mrs Maimouna Kane (formerly secretary of state for human resources)
Water resources	Samba Yela Diop (unchanged)
Youth and sports	Francois Bob (formerly secretary of state in the state ministry)
Environment	Cheikh Cissokho (former secretary of state for water resources and forestry)
Emigration	Mrs Fambaye Fall Diop (new)
Tourism	Momar Talla Cisse (formerly secretary of state for tourism)
Secretary of State for Decentralization	Landing Sane (new)
Secretary of state for technical and professional training	Mrs Marie Sarr Mbouj (new)
Secretary of state for rural development and fisheries	Bocar Diallo (new)
Secretary of state for employment	Thierno Ba (new)

ANGOLA

UNITA RADIO REPORTS ON MILITARY SUCCESSES

MB010704 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 30 Mar 83

[UNITA radio: Report by "operations room of the strategic operational command -- no date given]

[Text] In accordance with the guidelines of General Savimbi, supreme commander of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA], UNITA forces carried out important operations during the first 15 days of March, as part of their patriotic mission in the defense of the fatherland and to give freedom back to the black people of Angola -- freedom seized by Portuguese colonialism yesterday and by Soviet-Cuban imperialism today. We point out the following operations:

Moxico Province: On 2 March 1983 our glorious FALA attacked an enemy motorized column consisting of 16 vehicles between (Massivu) and (Kagungu). Seven vehicles were destroyed and 28 members of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] were killed. A total of 47 individual weapons, 2 .30-caliber machineguns, 4 60-mm mortars, 1 RPG-7, 8 RPD's, and 30,474 rounds of various caliber ammunition were captured. One FAPLA logistical official named (Angelo Ferreira Saoma) was also captured.

Bie Province: On 3 March 1983 glorious FALA (?liberated) the enemy commune of Cambandua. A total of 56 FAPLA soldiers and 2 Cubans were killed. Captured were 73 individual weapons, 1 82-mm mortar, 1 145-mm antiaircraft weapon, 1 B-10 cannon, 6 boxes with antipersonnel mines, 37 122-mm shells, 90,370,847 rounds of ammunition of various caliber, combat rations, and 7 boxes of medicines. The head and the political commissar of the Cambandua commune were also captured. Eleven (?MTU's), 1 UAZ, 3 Urals, and 1 Land Rover were burned.

On 4 March 1983, our glorious FALA fired 19 81-mm mortar shells into Bie city, causing the destruction of a house, many power failures, arbitrary arrests, and [words indistinct] curfew.

On 5 March 1983 our glorious FALA attacked the (Bulunga) commune.

On 11 March 1983 the enemy position at Mutumbo was taken by storm. There were 54 FAPLA soldiers and 4 Cubans killed. Captured were 33 automatic weapons, 1 75-mm cannon, 2 B-10 cannon, 4 60-mm mortars, 1 bazooka, 2 127-mm machineguns, 1 122-mm rocket launcher, 1 radio transmitter, 4 receivers, 94,874, 300 rounds of ammunition of various caliber, and 304 assorted shells. The commander of the enemy position was also captured, and 643 civilians were released.

At 2130 on 12 March 1983 UNITA special commandos attacked an enemy group which was patrolling Andulo city, killing three. Our cells have reported that two Cubans were also wounded in this operation. They are in the hospital at Andulo.

Huambo Province: On 4 March 1983 FALA forces repelled the FAPLA battalion which had recaptured the (Gandarinha) position. A total of 31 FAPLA soldiers were killed, and 2 Portuguese sappers were captured. Twenty AK-47 weapons, 3 G-3s, 4 Soviet Mausers, 1 127-mm machinegun, 6 RPG-7s, 2 bazookas, 1 75-mm cannon, 4 82-mm mortars, 7 60-mm mortars, 240 assorted shells, 487,491 rounds of ammunition of various caliber, 2 radio transmitters with parts, and 142.8 million cuanzas in currency were captured. Three hundred civilians were released.

On 8 March 1983 one Berliet vehicle hit a landmine on the Caala-Cuima road: Seventeen FAPLA soldiers, four people's defense organization members, and one white Portuguese national were killed.

Huila Province: On 6 March 1983 our mobilization brigade, supported by a special commando platoon, held a meeting in (Kokola), which was attended by a large number of people. On the same day our forces entered Quiteve town and captured one agriculture production official.

On 10 March 1983 FALA forces attacked an enemy motorized column between (Bamba) and (Micofi), resulting in the death of 28 FAPLA soldiers and 2 white men of unidentified nationality. A total of 37 automatic weapons, 1 122-mm rocket launcher, 3 82-mm mortars, 24,877,471 rounds of assorted ammunition, and 47,001,301 cuanzas were captured. Six vehicles were destroyed.

Cuando Cubango Province: On 8 March 1983 glorious FALA repelled an enemy column which was traveling from Longa to repair the bridge over the (Luacingua) River. Two Kraz's, three Ifa's, one (?MTO) and two Urals were destroyed. Killed were 43 FAPLA soldiers, including the operation commander, and two Cuban technicians. The material which was used on the bridge repair work was destroyed. Twelve AK-47s, 3 (BKM's), 6 SKS's, 9 RPK's, 7 German Mausers, 8 Czechoslovak AK's, 3 RPG-7s, 1 83-mm mortar, 1 (Grad UV), 1 radio transmitter, 1 battery charger, 1 box with RPG-7 shells, 37 antipersonnel mines, and a number of documents were captured.

On 11 March 1983 glorious FALA counterattacked a FAPLA battalion supported by a Cuban unit traveling from (Vila Nova de Armada) to try to move into the areas under our control. The attack occurred between (Vila Nova de Armada) and Baixo Longa. A total of 42 FAPLA soldiers, including a commander, and 5 Cubans were killed. Captured were 92 individual weapons, 3 machineguns, 2 RPG-7s, 2 ammunition boxes, 4 field radios and some explosives.

On 9 March 1983 UNITA forces attacked an 18-vechile enemy column which was traveling between (Bimbi) and Menongue. Nine vehicles were destroyed. Four Cubans and 79 FAPLA soldiers were killed. No materiel was captured because antitank (?shells) burned everything.

At 0430 on 12 March 1983 an attack was launched against the Alto Catumbela industrial scheme, consisting of the cellulose company and the hydroelectric station which distributes energy to the cities of Huambo, Cubal, Benguela, and Lobito. The attack was in the framework of the celebration of the founding of UNITA on 13 March 1966 in (Mungai), Moxico. After a 3-hour fight our forces destroyed four generators of the hydroelectric station, the cellulose plant, and two road bridges and one Benguela railway [CFB] bridge over the Catumbela River. The bridges linked Huambo and Benguela cities. A total of 32 vehicles belonging to the cellulose company, 1 locomotive which was stopped at the CFB Benguela railway station, and the CFB station itself were destroyed. Our forces captured 64 Czechoslovak and 20 Portuguese experts. Although not wearing uniforms, most of these foreign experts were armed. However, they refused to fire at UNITA troops, thus disobeying orders given by Captain (Djimussa), chief of state security at Alto Catumbela.

Among the Czechoslovak nationals we name the following: physician (Udekov Amari), born 18 January 1940, married; nurse (Lumikova Milada), born 14 July 1952, single; nurse (Vermira Vaneve), born 12 December 1937, married and accompanied by one child; physician (Kribo Udessi Salibor), born 9 December 1939, married and accompanied by his wife (Kribo Sevesteve Maglalena), born 5 April (1958), and by two children; paper production technician (Sevende Michel), born 24 November 1939, married, with two children and his wife (Sekentiova Christina); paper production technician (Pave Vilian) born 23 September 1944, married, and accompanied by his wife, (Parassova Yosefina), born 14 October 1945, and two children; senior technician (Pakove Josef), born 29 March 1936; senior technician (Clak Javomir), born 2 December 1945; senior technician (Novotni Tunir), born 8 October 1948, married; paper production technician (Kubik Antonive), born 4 October 1931; electrician (Mirovesky Fransky), born 24 May 1937, married; senior technician (Labunev Viktor), born 15 December 1940, married.

These are only some of the 64 Czechoslovaks who were taken prisoner during the attack against the Alto Catumbela industrial scheme and the cellulose paper plant.

At 1330 on 12 March 1983 glorious FALA attacked a six-vehicle column full of Cubans. Thirteen Cubans were killed, and quantities of war materiel were captured. Lieutenant (Adolfo Estevez), the column commander was captured. He is the son of (Marcelo Estevez) and (Cecilia Catingue), born in Oriente, Camaguey Province, Cuba, on 18 April 1949, and married to (Fidelina Fernandez Morales). He has two children named (Jaminel Estevez) and (Joana Estevez). [Words indistinct] left Cuba on 10 January 1983 and arrived in Luanda on 12 January 1983 with a group of 1,500 soldiers, 500 of whom arrived in Huambo on 14 January 1983 under the command of Major (Amando Leo). Lt (Adolfo Estevez) is alive and well at a UNITA base.

At 0700 on 12 March 1983 our glorious FALA attacked the enemy post of (Peco) north of Longa. An enemy battalion was stationed there. After 150 minutes of firing the enemy position was taken. The enemy suffered 174 confirmed casualties, and 7 FAPLA soldiers were captured. Large quantities of war materiel, including B-10 recoiless cannons, 145-mm antiaircraft weapons, and 82-mm mortars were captured. We suffered 2 dead, and 11 of our men were slightly wounded. The dead are Captain (Gimo), the battalion's political commissar, and Captain (Kumbuiamako), the battalion's second in command.

The UNITA leadership appeals to the Luanda minority government, the International Red Cross, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain that the MPLA should release the eight British mercenaries who were in the service of the Angolan National Liberation Front in 1975 in exchange for the freedom of certain Czechoslovak experts.

During this period we suffered 9 dead and 13 wounded.

FALA, expression and power of our people's frustration. FALA, the giant, FALA on the attack.

(Kafundanga) is an example to follow.

Only united around Comrade President Dr Jonas Savimbi will we win.

[Signed] Operations room of the Strategic Operational Command

MOZAMBIQUE

TRIBUNAL SENTENCES SIX TO DEATH, OTHERS TO PRISON

EA032031 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] The revolutionary military tribunal which sat in Maputo on 25, 26, and 29 March, and April 1983 [as heard], tried and sentenced six individuals to death by firing squad for crimes against the security of the people and the people's state. The individuals sentenced to death are: (Gulam Nadi), (Jose Jacob Manderero), (Sansao Filipe Mukwakwa), (Antonio Bangu), (Julio Salomao Kautilani), and (Jose Vitorino Mushanga).

A communique from the revolutionary military tribunal received at our newsdesk points out that at the same time 11 other accused were tried and sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from 2-12 years, also for crimes against the security of the people and the people's state. The penalty of whipping, between 10 and 45 lashes, will also be applied to the latter.

SOUTH AFRICA

PRIME MINISTER REFUSES TO MEET NUJOMA, OTHERS

MB041022 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha has rejected the offer to meet the country's opponents. Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda has invited Botha to meet with southern African leaders, including SWAPO's Sam Nujoma. Kaunda stressed the need for what he called genuine dialogue. Botha says he will not negotiate with leaders who are, in his words, promoting unrest and revolution on South Africa's borders.

WHITE ELECTORATE TO VOTE ON REFORM PROPOSALS

MB301749 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] A referendum is to be held among the white electorate on the government's constitutional proposals. The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, announced in the House of Assembly a short while ago that the referendum will be held after the proposals have been discussed in the House of Assembly. Mr Botha said that the government intended as soon as possible after the Easter recess to introduce a bill to amend the constitution.

The voters were entitled to be fully informed about the government's intentions, and the government had the fullest confidence in its well-intended proposals, as well as in the will of all fairminded voters to bring about the dispensation to bring security and the political rights of whites, Coloreds, and Asians to peaceful fruition.

ZIMBABWE

MATABELELAND CURFEW LIFTED; DISSIDENTS PARADED

MB020621 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] A curfew which has been in operation for the past few weeks has been lifted in the Nkai District. The minister for national supplies, Comrade Nkala, told two rallies in the district yesterday that food supplies, bus services, and normal business will resume. He said the people in the district should form defense committees to enable them to repulse any attack by dissidents.

The minister of state in the prime minister's office, Comrade Munangagwa, appealed to the people to preserve any government property sent to their areas. He said they should not engage in any subversive activities.

During the meetings, three dissidents were paraded. The dissidents included two former members of the national army. They recounted the number of robberies they conducted, and one was involved in the attack on the prime minister's residence last year.

HERALD EDITORIAL ON NEED TO DISARM DISSIDENTS

MB311527 Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Mar 83 p 8

[Editorial: "The End Is Near"]

[Text] ZAPU's days are numbered, and the conflict between that organisation and the peace-loving and loyal citizens of this country is now racing towards a climacteric.

No government can allow subversive elements to operate indefinitely with impunity. The government's patience has been construed to mean weakness, and there is a need now to act firmly against this utterly undemocratic organisation.

The prime minister's weekend warning to the remaining leaders of that body against supporting bandits must be heeded. By calling on them to disarm dissidents, Cde Mugabe dismissed those so-called leaders' claims that they have nothing to do with the banditry being carried out in the name of their organisation.

In a frank political indictment of these leaders the prime minister stated: "We are getting more and more evidence that more and more ZAPU leaders at various levels are engaged in recruiting dissidents, in sponsoring them, feeding them and giving them the necessary infrastructure to continue their criminal acts...and so I am warning finally the leadership of ZAPU that the most important task for them now is to disarm their dissidents. If they don't, we will disarm them as a party."

The writing is on the wall. The government's and people's patience have run out, attempts to resolve the conflict peacefully have not impressed that organisation, and thus the prime minister will find it more difficult to resist pressure to end the legal existence of that socially cancerous body.

Rather than going screaming to foreign journalists about alleged atrocities in the western province, ZAPU leaders must take advantage of Cde Mugabe's final warning by moving quick to help end the banditry which is, after all, their creation.

The fact that Mr Nkomo is a spent force, a political nuisance abroad, should help Chinamano and others appreciate the Zimbabwean political reality freed from the megalomaniac dreams of an old and discredited fugitive. Zimbabwe belongs to all its citizens, and it is in the interest of all of us to end suffering in our country.

In times like these there is good sense in talking about unity in our society. Denied a home base and devoid of a credible political programme, the dissidents will disappear.

The things that should unite us are far stronger than those which are mischievously brought to the fore as causes of division and political unrest. There are no significant ideological differences between ZAPU and the ruling party. Tribalism is not a factor in the government's determination to wipe out dissidents. The real cause of division hitherto has been personal powerhunger and rejection of democracy by Joshua Nkomo. Thus to defeat and crush dissidents is not only a social necessity but an exercise in the defence of democracy.

HERALD DENOUNCES CATHOLIC STATEMENT OF ATROCITIES

AB310800 Paris AFP in English 0710 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] Harare, Mar 31 (AFP) -- Zimbabwe's state-controlled press accused the country's Roman Catholic bishops today of "stabbing the government in the back" with their statement this week on Army atrocities in the southwest. The criticism by the national newspaper THE HERALD followed a rebuttal to the bishops' statement from Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira, who called it "irresponsible, contrived and propagandistic."

The seven bishops issued an Eastor pastoral letter on Tuesday in which they accused the Army of killing and maiming many hundreds of innocent civilians during its operations against anti-government rebels in the southwestern province of Matabeleland.

The letter followed reports to the same effect from international aid organizations, doctors, local residents and Joshua Nkomo's opposition political party, whose stronghold is the southwest.

Today's HERALD editorial said church and state had enjoyed a harmonious dialogue in Zimbabwe since independence in 1980, and noted that Prime Minister Robert Mugabe had received a delegation from the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace on Monday for talks on the Matebeleland situation. "Why then this outrageous public outburst by the seven Catholic bishops? Why stab the government in the back?" THE HERALD asked.

It said the church statement was "an ill-advised flight into the overseas anti-Zimbabwe publicity bandwagon by seven bishops with dubious knowledge about the intricacy of the struggle against our young state" by the rebels, who the Harare government claims are receiving South African backing.

Zimbabwe Government ministers have repeatedly attacked the foreign press for its reporting of the killings in Matabeleland, and one British correspondent has been expelled because of his newspaper's handling of the subject.

Mr. Nkomo, who fled Zimbabwe early this month after his house was ransacked by security forces in an anti-dissidents sweep in Bulawayo, said yesterday in London that he was postponing his return to Zimbabwe because of the government's reaction to the bishops' statement. The Bishops, Mr Nkomo said, "have no aze to grind."

GOVERNMENT ASKS CHURCH'S HELP IN EDUCATION

MB040713 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Text] The deputy prime minister, Comrade Mozenda, says the history of Christianity in Zimbabwe has provided a striking example of spiritual ideas promoting society's development.

Officially opening (Mutendi) Mission School, a product of the cooperative efforts of the Zionist Christian Church in Mashingo Province yesterday, Comrade Muzenda noted that several schools will be built by religious groups. He pointed out that by building schools, the church is assisting the government in its efforts to achieve the goal of education for all.

Speaking at the same occasion, the minister of education and culture, Comrade Mutumbuka, appealed to those who can build more schools for themselves to do so, as this will assist his ministry. Comrade Mutumbuka told the Zionist Christian Church that the government will provide it with 2,000 dollars to expand the new school.

AID AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH JAPAN 28 MARCH

MB281846 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] Zimbabwe and Japan today signed an aid agreement worth about 3 million Zimbabwean dollars. The agreement, signed by the deputy minister of economic planning and development, Comrade Sanyangare, and the Japanese ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr. Sasaki, enables Zimbabwe to receive more than 2 million dollars for acquiring heavy-duty vehicles for the joint relief program on a grant basis. As part of the package deal, about 500,000 dollars will be used to finance the supply of hospital equipment in Zimbabwe.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Comrade Sanyangare said Zimbabwe has already benefitted from a number of grant and packages from Japan, covering the provision of fertilizers and equipment for road development projects. A similar agreement for the supply of 31,000 tons of maize for Zambia in exchange for 20,000 tons of American wheat was also signed between Zimbabwe and the United States today. The general manager of the grain marketing board, Mr (Long), signed on behalf of the government, while the American ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr Keeley, signed on behalf of the United States.